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TEEN YOB'S NATIONAL DRINK BAN

A **TEENAGER** has been given a three-year ASBO preventing him from being drunk in England or Wales.

Jack Harbour, 18, from Gillingham, was sentenced by a court this week to 16 months in a young offenders' institution after two assaults.

But when he is released from detention he will still be banned from getting drunk anywhere in England or Wales.

Police say the action is part of a crackdown on antisocial behaviour. Officers said the granting of the order came when Harbour was arrested after a series of incidents in Medway. A spokesman said: "His drunken

■ BY **NICK AMES**

behaviour was leading to problems. He had been causing trouble and his actions were making life a misery for those who live here and visitors.

"That is why the order was granted for such a long period. We are very pleased with the result."

Chief Inspector Des Keers said: "Medway residents have the right to enjoy their own homes and environment in peace and without fear.

"By working closely with

our partners to secure this ASBO we have achieved another step towards reducing antisocial behaviour."

Officer Jackie Lineham, who coordinated the case, said: "This action is about enforcing acceptable levels of behaviour and creating an environment in which people feel safe.

"We will not hesitate in taking action against people who are intent on intimidating or harassing others.

"I urge anyone who sees Harbour breaching the conditions of this order to contact Medway police."



DRY RUN: Drink ASBO teenager Jack Harbour



CHEF GARY PANNED

Celebrity chef Gary Rhodes has been booted off popular TV show *Strictly Come Dancing* after his footwork was branded "flat as a pancake".

The Medway-raised, Michelin-starred cook, who attended Twydale Junior and the Howard School in Rainham, picked up just 18 points out of 40 in Saturday's show.

This led to a dance-off on Sunday against swimmer Mark Foster, who the judges elected to save. Gary, who was partnered by professional Karen Hardy, said: "I would go through it all again - I want that ballroom dance. Maybe we'll have that privately."

Acid-tongued judge Craig Revel Horwood told Gary his "hunched back" and "lurching neck" were the reasons for his dismissal. "There are major timing issues and stonky flat footedness," he said.

Gary had taken on a gruelling training regime to keep pace with Karen, who won the show two years ago with ex-cricketer Mark Ramprakash.

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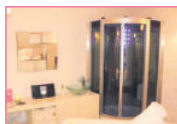
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YOUR MONEY - YOUR LOSS!

CRACKDOWN ON THE BENEFIT CHEATS

Police use data and tax checks to help catch benefits cheats

■ BY NICK AMES

GOVERNMENT officials will be checking data records this month in a bid to catch benefits cheats.

The Audit Commission, working with Medway Council, will use information available to bodies such as the police, local authorities and probation boards to ascertain the exact make-up of households and detect fraud.

For example, housing benefit data can be cross-referenced to employment and income tax to look for people cheating the system.

Next year Medway Council will also be supplying information about residents claiming council tax single person discount with the aim of identifying false claims.

The current exercise - known as the National Fraud Initiative - runs until the end of October.

Message

Alan Jarrett, deputy leader of Medway Council, said: "Our participation in the initiative sends out a clear message fraud will not be tolerated. Taxpayers' money funds vital services that benefit the community. We won't hesitate to investigate, track down and prosecute those who defraud the taxpayer."

Yourmedway is working with

Medway Council to crackdown on benefit fraud through our Your Money - Your Loss campaign.

An eight-strong council team is currently investigating 200 cases - many of which will result in further legal action taking place.

The team uses surveillance techniques - introduced by a Government act eight years ago - to catch fraudsters in the act and build up enough evidence to take them to court.

Our popular campaign was set up to expose the con-artists who ripped off more than £400,000 of taxpayers' money last year alone - cash which could be used for the community.

Cllr Jarrett said: "I want everyone to realise benefit fraud is a crime that won't be tolerated."

"Medway Council take the theft of public money very seriously."

"This is money that could be spent on providing essential services to the community."

"Anyone caught cheating the system will be prosecuted and will have to repay what they have stolen - and they could be imprisoned."

During the last year 41 fraudsters were prosecuted for cheating the benefit system.

A further 46 received formal cautions, while three more were given administrative penalties.

If you know of a benefit cheat you can call Medway council's investigations team on 01634 332305 or leave a message on the fraud hotline on 0800 083 7049.

yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

Running up funds

A MOTHER-of-two has launched a "fund-raising frenzy" after her best friend was diagnosed with lung and liver cancer.

Lianne Bealey will do a 10km run at Leeds Castle this weekend and hold a coffee morning at St Mary's Island Community Centre next Wednesday from 9am to 1pm, all in aid of Cancer Research UK.

"Her children are the same age as mine so I've gone on a bit of a fund-raising frenzy," Linda said.

To sponsor her go online to www.run10kspornorme.org/liannebealey.

Fun with the police

BEAT bobbies have been tackling a group of Strood youngsters during police-led football lessons.

The free coaching sessions were set up by Medway PCSOs to give teenagers something to do in the evenings.

Organiser PCSO Steve Greensted said: "It's been a positive way to engage with young people across Medway, keep them active and give them something fun to do."

"We hope to make it a permanent youth project."

Rewarding service

TEN engineers have been recognised for their dedication to Kingsnorth power station after notching up more than 280 years of service between them.

The long-serving workers, all entering their 20th or 30th year in the industry, were treated to a special lunch by owners E.ON.

Plant manager Alan Sanderson said: "This is quite a record for us in terms of long service awards and goes to show how passionate our guys are about their jobs."

Celebrations begin

FORMER X Factor finalist Ashley McKenzie launched Medway's Black History Month on Saturday night.

The singer-songwriter, who starred in the third series of the hit TV talent search show eventually won by Leona Lewis, performed at the Brook Theatre in Chatham alongside MC Bashy.

Medway council's community services boss Howard Doe said: "The festival gives everyone the chance to celebrate and learn about the diverse cultures and traditions that are part of Medway's community."

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Miliband urged to stop Kingsnorth plan

BY SIMON ROBINSON

GREENPEACE campaigners have urged Ed Miliband, head of the government's newly-set up climate change department, to axe plans to build a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth.

The pressure group's executive director John Sauven said the opening of a dedicated energy and climate office was a positive move, but called for fresh ideas to help tackle the world's climate crisis.

He was speaking after last week's cabinet reshuffle landed Miliband a new job and Swale's MP offered his first ministerial role.

He said: "For the last ten years this Government has dithered on climate change, offering us inspiring rhetoric, but little in the way of real action. Bringing energy and climate together at last reflects the urgency of the threat we face from climate change.

"Hopefully Ed Miliband will champion efforts to boost renewable energy and energy efficiency as part of a plan to create the green-collar jobs that Britain has so far lost to our European neighbours.

"The first test of his credibility will be whether he stops the UK's first new coal-fired power station in more than 30 years at Kingsnorth.

"It's vital that the civil servants who blocked progress on renewables and energy efficiency for so long at the Department for Business are left where they are.

"Miliband's new team needs to bring fresh thinking and new ideas to the challenge of climate change. Central to this must be a new, low



DEMANDS: New boy Ed Miliband responsible for renewable energy. Swale MP Paul Smith takes up new ministerial post

carbon economy based on green manufacturing and green jobs."

Prime Minister Gordon Brown unveiled his cabinet reshuffle on Friday morning.

Peter Mandelson, who was twice forced to resign from Tony Blair's cabinet, was the surprise inclusion, named as the new business secretary. He replaces John Hutton who moves into the defence role previously headed up by Des Browne.

Paul Clark, MP for Gillingham and Rainham, was appointed a junior minister at the Department for Transport. He will be Parliamentary Under Secretary, working with Lord Andrew Adonis and Jim Fitzpatrick MP under the Secretary of State Geoff Hoon.

Mr Clark, 51, had just been at the Brook



Theatre in Chatham to help launch Medway Black History Month on Saturday when he heard the news.

He said: "I am absolutely delighted to be asked by the Prime Minister to be a Minister for Transport.

"I have always said it is great honour to be elected as a Member of Parliament, doubly so to represent my home town.

"But now being asked to be a minister in such an important aspect of all our lives – whether it is as a rail commuter, driving on our road network, navigating our coasts and waterways, utilising cycle paths, bus routes or footpaths – I am extremely privileged to have this opportunity."

The father-of-two has been in Parliament since 1997.

Securitas raiders were old friends

TWO cage fighters were the masterminds behind the £53 million raid on the Securitas depot in Tonbridge, a court heard this week.

Paul Allen, 30, and Lee Murray, 29, then fled to Morocco, a jury at the Old Bailey was told.

Allen, from Chatham, was extradited to the UK, but Murray remains in jail in the north African country.

On trial is Allen and Michael Demitris, 32, from Bromley Common, south London. Both deny conspiracy to rob, to kidnap and to possess a firearm.

They are accused of conspiring with five other men who were jailed in January on kidnap, robbery and firearms charges.

Sir John Nutting QC, prosecuting, said both men were old friends and both worked part-time as cage fighters – a no-holds barred form of martial arts.

He told the court telephone records revealed they spoke regularly in the days leading up to the robbery which took place on February 21, 2006.

The trial continues.

Inquiry into fire that killed man

A CARAVAN blaze which killed one man and injured another is being investigated by police and firefighters.

The incident took place in the grounds of River House, Hoo, with emergency crews being called on Saturday at 4.36am.

Crews from Strood and Hoo initially attended the blaze, but called for support when they realised the seriousness of the incident.

"Our firefighters were confronted by a fire which was well alight and called for back up from Cliffe and Medway," said a Fire Service spokeswoman.

The identity of the man who died has not yet been released, but next of kin have been informed. The second victim's injuries were said to be "not life-threatening", but he is still in hospital.

The blaze is not being treated as suspicious.

Jess calls for support with charity walk

STUDENT Jess Walter is calling on Medway residents to back her sponsored walk at Capstone Farm Country Park later this month.

The Universities at Medway campus undergraduate has organised the event to coincide with breast cancer awareness month as her step-mum, Debbie Walter, 39, from Lenham, is currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

The 22-year-old creative events student said: "With 100 women being diagnosed with breast cancer every day in the UK, I am delighted to organise this walk to help beat it, and I need people in Medway to register now."

Proceeds of the event on October 25 will go towards Cancer Research UK.

Chatham's area volunteer manager Helen Waters said: "The Capstone Park walk looks set to be a wonderful day and everyone who registers gets a fundraising pack and will be part of many breast cancer awareness walks in aid of Cancer Research UK, happening all over the country across October."

Participants need to register in advance so visit www.cancerresearchuk.org/breastcancer or call Jess on 01622 673645.

Family struggling to come to terms with biker killed in crash

THE family of biker Paul Vincent who died in a car crash have released an emotional tribute to the father-of-one.

The statement, given to Yourmedway by Medway police, reads: "Paul was a wonderful dad and husband, we will miss him dearly.

"He will be missed by all of his family and many friends too.

"I am sure it will take some time for us all to come to terms with."

Mr Vincent was killed in Deanwood Drive, Rainham, at 10.45am on Monday last week after colliding with a silver Ford Focus close to the junction with Lonsdale Drive.

Emergency services battled to save the Rainham man's life, but he was pronounced dead at the scene.

Friends and family have since laid floral tributes to their loved one at the road side.

Kent police are investigating the circumstances of the fatal collision.

Investigating Officer PC Lorraine Silvester said: "Kent police is contin-



MISSED: Paul leaves behind one daughter

uing inquiries to establish the cause of this tragic incident.

"We would like anyone who witnessed the accident to contact PC Ian Malcolm at the Kent police serious collision unit on 01622 798538."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Renovators rewarded

TWO specialist renovators will be recognised by the City of Rochester Society on Saturday for their work on restoring Cloudesly House to its former glory.

Mark Lucas and Anthony Kinton will receive the annual conservation award for their work on the historic High Street building.

The pair painted the facade and restored and re-gilded the first floor windows. Society president Bob Ratcliffe said: "Many hours of work were involved and the house has become a great asset to the High Street."

The society gives the award to individuals it deems to have made the most significant contribution to conservation.

Giants of the highway

HAULAGE vehicles will converge on Chatham Historic Dockyard this weekend for the Scammell Road Run and Rally.

The two-day rally has been organised by Scammell Register, a national group of enthusiasts.

These giants of the highway gather at the dockyard on Saturday, where they will be on display. At 10.30am on Sunday they will take to the roads before returning to the dockyard.

Scammell made tank transporters, recovery vehicles, artillery tractors and large towing vehicles often used by circuses, travelling fairs, and removals companies.

The British firm dates back to 1921.

Funny Women in town

THE UK's leading female comics will take the stage at the Brook Theatre this month when the Chatham venue hosts the touring Funny Women night.

The line-up includes reigning Nivea Funny Women award-winner Katherine Ryan, 2006 winner Suzy Bennett, 2008 runner-up Sara Pascoe and special guest comedian/magician Mandy Mudén.

The Funny Women tour is at the Brook Theatre on Monday, October 20. Tickets cost £10. For more information, call the box office on 01634 338338.

Bright idea cuts crime

SOLAR-powered street lamps have helped cut crime at antisocial hotspots in Chatham, according to a housing association.

The lights were put up in Charter Street and Walderslade Road by MHS Homes in February after complaints about yobs congregating in car parks and communal areas.

A spokesman said: "In the absence of a convenient power supply, we chose to look into alternative means of providing the power for lighting."

"Feedback from residents has been positive."

Pride of place at Demelza's party

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

DEMELZA hospice care celebrated its tenth anniversary with a glittering party at Gillingham FC's Priestfield stadium and a live performance by X Factor finalist Ben Mills.

Supporters, volunteers and staff gathered for an evening of entertainment in aid of the Sittingbourne-based charity, which cares for children from across the South East.

They included Derek Phillips, founder of the charity and father of Demelza whose life provided the inspiration for the hospice's work.

The fun began with pass the parcel followed by a fundraising auction, with special donated prizes adding an extra thrill to the evening.

Among the lots were a framed Manchester United football shirt signed by striker Wayne Rooney, a VIP box at the O2 arena for a performance of Finding Nemo and tickets for TV show Strictly Come Dancing.

Other prizes included an England rugby shirt signed by James Haskell, a studio tour of breakfast programme This Morning, a dolls' house and a safari at Port Lympne wild animal park.

Sue Piper, the charity's head of fundraising, said: "This was a wonderful way to mark this significant milestone in Demelza's history, ten years of supporting children and their



PARTY GUEST: KOS Media managing director Paul Stannard flanked by Demelza's Charley Sax (left) and Sue Piper

families. Everyone had a wonderful time and it was fantastic to see so many people who have played such a significant part in making the charity what it is today.

"We look forward to the new challenges that the next ten years will bring and to working with the communities, volunteers and staff

that are so much a part of Demelza, to continue offering the children and families the same level of care and support that we have always prided ourselves on."

For more information or to make a donation to Demelza, call 01795 845288 or email sue.piper@demelza.org.uk.

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Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



Expo makes waves with Riverside

THE Rochester Riverside regeneration project formed the centrepiece of this year's KOS Media Construction Expo.

The ongoing multi-million-pound transformation of the 74-acre brownfield site was discussed by Crest Nicholson bosses, who will oversee the development of the first 600 homes on the flagship plot.

Chief executive Stephen Stone spoke to delegates at the Chatham Historic

Dockyard conference about the development, including the skills needed to deliver large-scale residential projects and focusing on work the company has been carrying out with North Kent Construction Skills to bring about training and learning opportunities.

Mr Stone said: "Rochester Riverside is a major development that underpins the Government's strategic growth plans in the Thames

Gateway. It will bring significant visual and economic benefits, and by creating a vibrant and sustainable new community for Medway, Rochester Riverside is set to become one of north Kent's most important landmark projects."

See Julie Maddocks at Expo 2008, Kent's biggest construction exhibition, on Yourkenttv.co.uk - search 'expo'.

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Commuter route earns reprieve after campaign

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE peak-time Chatham to Cannon Street service has won a reprieve from rail bosses who had threatened to cancel the commuter route.

Southeastern had planned to axe the service next December once its trains began operating on the Channel Tunnel rail link.

The announcement was met with anger by hundreds of commuters, who said the move would add hours to their daily journey.

One worker, who gave her name as Rebecca, said: "My concern is the introduction of the domestic high-speed link in 2009.

"With those trains going to St Pancras, the remaining domestic services are to be fewer per hour to Victoria and Cannon Street, with additional stops making the service slower.

"The reason, we are told, is that more people will move over to the high-speed link.

"This is unlikely to happen in significant numbers, particularly as Cannon Street has the highest percentage of London stations and commuters are able to walk to work."

The commuters' cause was picked up by Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw, who started a campaign last year which has succeeded in forcing rail chiefs into a U-turn.

Mr Shaw said he was delighted the service had been saved.

He said: "The company appeared to be pursuing a reduction in the Cannon Street service but the overwhelming public response was against any such reduction.

"Commuters were very anxious and frustrated that the decision was set in stone



TICKET TO RIDE: Chatham MP Jonathan Shaw, left, with Medway councillors Bill Esterson and Vince Maple

and they were being cast aside.

"The Cannon Street service is an important commuter link and I challenged Southeastern to improve but above all keep the service."

"I welcome the announcement that the peak-time service will be retained. This is great news for all Medway commuters and I am grateful to Southeastern for listening to people's concerns."

In a statement, Southeastern's managing director Charles Horton said: "We have worked with Jonathan Shaw and listened to local rail users' concerns to maintain current capacity on mainline routes into London terminals.

"We want to offer passengers a choice between high-speed and mainline service. The timetable will meet those aspirations.

"Southeastern appreciates Mr Shaw wants a better and fairer deal for commuters and we will continue to deliver a quality of service the people of Chatham deserve."



Contract secures Queen's future

A £1.8 MILLION restoration contract was signed on Friday which will secure the future of the Medway Queen.

Bristol boat-builder David Abels has agreed to take on the mammoth construction job – made possible by National Lottery funding.

He will take the vessel to Bristol to carry out the labour-intensive work of rebuilding the vessel's entire hull.

Members of the Medway Queen Preservation Society oversaw the signing of

the contract, which is a huge milestone in the ship's illustrious story.

Mayor of Medway David Carr, and Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw, also attended the signing at Chatham Historic Dockyard on Friday.

The Medway Queen was one of the flotilla of Little Ships that ferried soldiers from Dunkirk to England in 1940.

After being taken out of service in 1963 she narrowly avoided being scrapped and has sunk twice.

yourmedway

NEWS IN BRIEF

Poison fish and eels show river's healthy

A VENOMOUS fish has been found in the Thames Estuary during a two-year monitoring programme looking at sealife in north Kent.

The Greater Weever, which can grow to up to half a metre and has poisonous spines on its back, was one of 60 species recorded in the study.

Other fish caught included sole, cod and sea bass as well as unusual species such as the short-snouted seahorse, European eel and John Dory.

The data was gathered by the Environment Agency and the Zoological Society of London to record how fish populations have reacted to pressures such as development, dredging, cargo vessel traffic and commercial fishing.

Fishery officer Emma Barton said: "The diversity and abundance of fish is an excellent indicator of the health of the estuary.

Monitoring provides us with crucial information that helps shape the way we manage future development."

Scrapheap challenge aims to engineer more interest

YOUNGSTERS will take on BAE Systems' travelling scrapheap challenge this week, using recycled bits to build a range of vehicles.

More than 240 children across eight Medway schools will get hands-on with the Rochester-based firm's Scrapheap Charlie roadshow, which aims to encourage more children to take up careers in engineering.

BAE Systems education boss Richard Hamer said: "The roadshow demonstrates our commitment to raising the profile of engineering as a career choice.

"We want students who experience the roadshow to be enthused about all aspects of engineering."

Woman driver terrified as racist job spits with rage

A TEENAGE job is being sought by police after racist abuse was hurled at a terrified woman motorist.

The lad, who was with another youth, launched a vicious verbal attack on the black woman as he rode past her car on a BMX bike in Darley Road, Strood, on September 22.

He is described as dark haired, of slight build, 5ft 6in and aged about 16. The second youth has fair, straight hair and was wearing a black tracksuit. The job spat at the victim's car before shouting more abuse.

Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Sims on 01634 792541.

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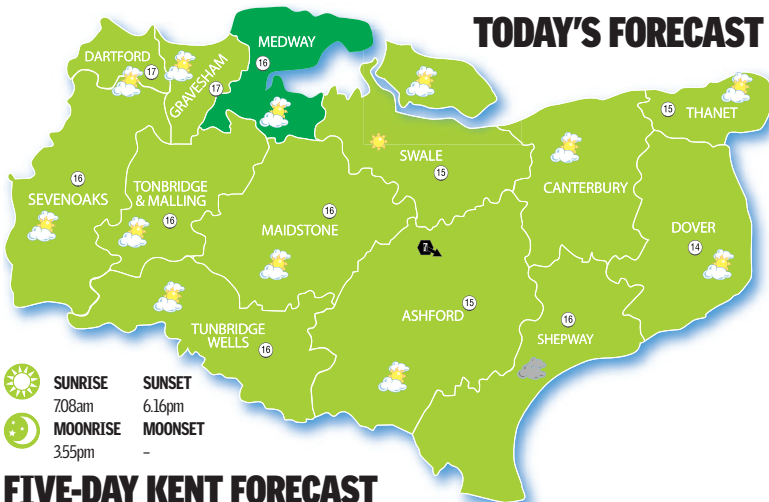


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SUNSET
6:16pm
MOONRISE
3:55pm
MOONSET
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FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	17°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	16°C
Canterbury	17°C	15°C	16°C	16°C	17°C
Chatham	18°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Dartford	18°C	17°C	17°C	19°C	18°C
Dover	15°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	16°C
Faversham	18°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Folkestone	15°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	16°C
Gillingham	18°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	17°C

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Gravesend	18°C	17°C	17°C	19°C	18°C
Maidstone	18°C	16°C	17°C	19°C	18°C
Ramsgate	17°C	15°C	16°C	16°C	17°C
Rochester	18°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Sevenoaks	16°C	15°C	16°C	16°C	15°C
Sittingbourne	18°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Tonbridge	18°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	17°C
Tun Wells	18°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	17°C

TODAY'S FORECAST



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	7:57am	4.5m
	Sunday	9:28am	4.6m
Dover	Saturday	7:06am	5.0m
	Sunday	8:27am	5.3m
Dungeness	Saturday	6:52am	5.7m
	Sunday	8:14am	5.9m
Ramsgate	Saturday	7:36am	3.8m
	Sunday	8:57am	4.0m
Sheerness	Saturday	7:45am	4.4m
	Sunday	9:16am	4.5m
Whitstable	Saturday	8:10am	4.3m
	Sunday	9:28am	4.5m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	14°C	Madrid	22°C
Athens	16°C	New York	15°C
Barcelona	22°C	Paris	17°C
Beijing	18°C	Rome	20°C
Bombay	31°C	Sydney	22°C
Cape Town	26°C	Tenerife	24°C
Cardiff	13°C	Tokyo	18°C
Gibraltar	22°C	Vancouver	14°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	14°C
Las Palmas	24°C	Wellington	13°C



COURAGE: Firefighters from Maidstone's White Watch

Watch honoured for bravery shown during flat blaze

BRAVE firefighters were presented with honorary certificates in recognition of outstanding actions.

Kent Fire and Rescue servicemen were given the awards at a special ceremony at Oakwood House in Maidstone on Tuesday last week.

Maidstone's White Watch were presented with a certificate of congratulations for dealing with a serious fire in a bottom floor flat in Hayle Road in the county town on New Year's Day.

The crew rescued two men from the blaze and tackled it with firefighters from Marden and Larkfield.

Chief fire officer, Bill Feeley, said: "All of White Watch Maidstone showed extreme tenacity, courage and determination to ensure a successful outcome, resulting in the rescue of two casualties."

"Without their actions, this incident could have had a far more serious ending."

Faversham watch manager, Gary Robb, received a certificate for rescuing two people trapped in a car on October 27 last year on his way to work.

The car had filled with water to chest-height due to severe flooding.

Daniel Upton, former station manager of Medway, also received an award for dedicated service.

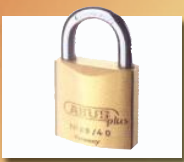
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QUESTION & ANSWER

MAUREEN RUPAREL



Q Can you tell us a little about yourself?

A My main focus in life is my family – I have four children and nine grandchildren, so keeping in touch with everyone takes a lot of time. Children grow so quickly it is easy to stop being a part of their lives, so I spend quite a bit of time visiting the various families.

My husband, Madhu, is in care but I like to take him out or bring him home most days of the week, even if it is only for a couple of hours.

Q How did you get into local politics and become a councillor?

A Madhu and I had always been interested in politics and have been keen Liberal, then Liberal Democrat, supporters for as long as I can remember. We have moved around a lot but after coming back to Gillingham in 1993 – our children had grown up here – we got actively involved and I ended up becoming a councillor on the old Gillingham Borough Council.

Q What ward do you represent and what are the key issues it faces?

A My ward is Gillingham North, and Andy Stamp, Cathy Sutton and I have a lot to do in keeping up with all the developments. At the moment we have the issue of ammonium nitrate still at Chatham Docks, the new Medway College Campus, the huge development going on between the docks and the Strand, the transformation of the Black Lion Leisure Centre into the new sports complex, the setting up of a controlled parking zone

in the ward etc. etc. Not to mention all the various personal problems we deal with for residents.

Q What are the best bits about being a councillor?

A For me it is the feeling of satisfaction you get when a resident has come for help and we have managed to stand up for the individual against the system and get the problem sorted. Also there is the opportunity to meet lots of interesting people as we go around our wards – and I seem to learn something new from people every day.

Q And the worst parts?

A Sometimes going for two or three days without a proper meal because family commitments and council work have kept me on the go all day and all evening without a reasonable break.

I put on weight easily and I have noticed the pounds going on since I got back on the council after a four-year gap. There is also the issue of the present 'cabinet' system of local government which takes away the chance for ordinary councillors to take part in proper debate and decision making.

Q What stance does the Lib Dem party have on the Kingsnorth development issue?

A The first, and main, objection we have is that there has been absolutely NO opportunity for the residents in Medway to have a

proper say in any decision. In a true democracy the power company concerned would have been made to fund a full public inquiry so everyone could learn the facts and assess the real impact a new coal-fired power station would have on our air quality – and also whether it is really needed or not.

Even at the planning meeting elected members were effectively gagged by the legal advice and not permitted to voice their true objections. The Government has allowed E.ON to get away with the cheapest option possible and we think the people of Medway deserve better.

Q What do you like to do in your spare time?

A What spare time? If I am not at council meetings or with family I like to travel, cook, read, knit and garden. I am also actively involved with a local church and do a bit of voluntary work there – it keeps me in touch with people and reminds me that Medway council and politics are not the centre of the universe.

Q Anything you'd like to add?

A I wish more younger people with families would take a bit more interest in the political process. It is disheartening on the doorsteps to have the parents of young families say that they can't see what difference it makes, or that the local council is nothing to do with them.

The future of the town is in their hands and their children have to cope with the problems we leave behind us.

Q & A

The councillor spoke to **Simon Robinson** about representing her community, her dismay at plans for new coal-fired units at Kingsnorth and her desire to get young families involved in the political process

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Archaeologist Tony Wilmott at the site of the original coastline at Richborough. Search 'roman fort'



How Kent Police and the Army are preparing for a terrorist attack. See story below and search 'army'



John McAllister from Kent Wildlife Trust talks about moving beavers back into the wild. Search 'beaver'



Holiday Extras launches an online video showing some exciting job vacancies. Search 'extras'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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Exercise keeps terror forces ready for attack

BY NICK AMES

A MAJOR anti-terrorism exercise is taking place across the county this week involving police and Army units.

It started on Monday with a demonstration of bomb-disposal techniques at the Kent Police training centre in Maidstone.

But Exercise Border Fist also took place at other locations over the last three days and is continuing until Friday.

It involves police officers inventing alert situations and contacting the Army, which responds as if it was a real emergency.

Deputy Chief Constable Adrian Leppard said: "This is a way for us to examine how effective our co-operation with other agencies such as the Army is, as well as test out our command and control structure."

Major Mark Austin of the military's Royal Logistics Corps added: "We are playing this for real – responding to incidents exactly as we would a real emergency."

Exact details of the mock alerts have not been released as those involved are still evaluating results – and details of any future exercises cannot be revealed or the results would be meaningless.

"We can't say what's going to happen as that would give the Army information they would not have in a real-life emergency," said Mr Leppard.

Monday's exercise was based on the scenario of a post office robbery in which the raiders had left an improvised nail-bomb outside the building to tie down police units.

It took place in a mocked-up street used by the force for training operations.

Soldiers from a Folkestone-based bomb-disposal squadron took part alongside police.

"Our team arrived with the area cordoned off, as would happen in a real alert," said Warrant Officer Andy Stedman.

"We then deployed what we call the wheel-



CONCENTRATION: Sgt David Humphreys is well protected before he embarks on the long walk to make the bomb safe

barrow – a robot bomb-disposal device which can approach the bomb and relay pictures back to our command truck."

The robot is equipped with a weapon on its front which fires an intense burst of cold water to knock out the explosive circuits and render the device safe.

"It's a system we have developed from long experience," said WO Stedman. "It acts in a nano-second and prevents the timing device from detonating."

A soldier in a 42kg anti-blast suit then goes up to the device to ensure it no longer poses a threat.

Sergeant David Humphreys took on the role

during the exercise – he has done it for real in British Army operations abroad.

"We call it the long walk," he said. "It's 100 per cent concentration – there is no room for nerves."

After he is sure the device is no longer a threat he collects evidence such as materials and possible fingerprints.

"This exercise went well," said Mr Leppard. "But we have to be vigilant. Anyone seeing anything suspicious should contact the police, whether or not an operation like this is running."

"If they do call us and it is just an exercise we will know."

Chief undecided about top job

KENT'S Chief Constable Michael Fuller has confirmed he is considering applying to become the next Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

In an exclusive interview, the county's top officer told our sister paper Kent on Sunday that he had not decided yet if he should enter the contest to succeed Sir Ian Blair, who stepped down on Thursday afternoon.

Bookmaker William Hill has slashed the odds on Mr Fuller, who is 49, taking Britain's top policing job from 14/1 to 10/1.

And asked if he was putting his name forward, Mr Fuller told KoS: "I haven't decided about it yet, I am genuinely undecided."

"I know the demands of the job and it's something I will give a lot of thought to. It's not something I would take on lightly."

Before joining Kent Police as chief constable in January 2004, Mr Fuller had been with the Met since starting as a cadet in 1975. When he arrived he was already tipped to be a strong candidate for the Met Commissioner's post.

Violent

While with the Met he came up with a strategy that led to the Met's anti-burglary initiative, Operation Bumblebee. He also established Operation Trident, the campaign to stop black-on-black gun crime, and helped set up the Racial and Violent Crime Task Force.

As a detective superintendent based in the Home Office, he gave regular advice to the Home Secretary and was later appointed deputy assistant commissioner (director of intelligence) at New Scotland Yard.

He is known to value "police operational independence and political neutrality", and describes his style as "firm but fair with a no-nonsense approach".

In the past he has spoken out to back his rank-and-file officers in their battle with the Government over pay.

Race is an ever-present issue in the capital, and under Mr Fuller's command Kent is one of only two forces to receive an 'excellent' rating for diversity.

Mr Fuller holds an honorary doctorate of laws from Sussex University and the University of East London. He is a non-practising barrister and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in July, 2007.

Kent Police Authority renewed Mr Fuller's appointment as chief constable three weeks ago.

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Why people's choice for 'Angel of the South' was cast aside

EXCLUSIVE

BY IAN PATEL

ONE of the public's favourite designs for the giant £2 million landmark at Ebbsfleet – dubbed the 'Angel of the South' – has been dumped, it emerged this week.

The confidential results of a major public consultation, exclusively obtained by our sister paper Kent On Sunday, also revealed that one of the designs still in the running was one of the least popular.

Judges named a shortlist of three designs by Daniel Buren, Richard Deacon and Mark Wallinger last week.

But the results of the consultation show a design by Christopher Le Brun, backed by 49 per cent of the public, failed to make it through to the next round of the selection process.

A design by Rachel Whiteread, who grew up in Ebbsfleet, was also dropped by judges.

Nest

However, Richard Deacon's design, which was backed by only 14 per cent of people, was shortlisted by the selection panel chaired by the director of Margate's Turner Contemporary, Victoria Pomery.

The geometrical design would be a painted steel latticework outlining a "stack" of 26 differently shaped polyhedrons, which he describes as a "nest".

The fact that there would be 26 "modules" is to reflect that there are 26 letters of the alphabet, because Mr Deacon sees writing as the cornerstone of western culture.

But his inspiration seems to have been lost on some of the public, one of whom described the work as "take three Curly Wurlys and apply gentle heat. Freeze and put into a display case."

More than 40,000 shoppers at Bluewater took



CONFLICTING IDEAS: Christopher Le Brun's design was ditched despite being popular in a public consultation, while the least favoured 'latticework nest' by Richard Deacon has been shortlisted for the proposed 'Angel of the South' at Ebbsfleet

part in a three-month consultation from May to August. A further 10,000 people submitted their comments via the internet.

The iconic sculpture will stand at Springhead Park looking out over Ebbsfleet Valley, Ebbsfleet International station and the Thames Estuary.

The giant Ebbsfleet Landmark Project is being billed as the UK's largest and most significant public art commission since Antony Gormley's Angel of the North.

Eurostar, Land Securities and London & Continental Railways, the company behind High Speed 1 which will provide fast rail links between London and Kent next year, have organised the project.

Mark Wallinger's design for a white horse was the early favourite to win the commission, though Kent County Council has been trying to organise opposition to the design, claiming a prancing Invicta-style design would be more appropriate.



Racism on rise in county's schools

THE number of racist incidents reported at schools across the county has risen sharply during the last four years, according to a BBC investigation.

Cases involving pupils and teachers increased by more than 50 per cent, from 596 incidents in 2003/2004, to 901 in 2006/2007, according to the report.

During 2006/2007, 41 per cent of schools in the county reported racist incidents.

Statistics made available following a Freedom of Information request by BBC Radio Kent showed Mascalls School, a comprehensive in Paddock Wood, had the highest number of incidents with 31 in 2006/7.

Minster College in Sheerness had 18 incidents, the second highest number in the county.

Michelle Hunt, KCC access to information co-ordinator, said: "We are unaware if the numbers reported indicate the establishment of a robust system whereby the whole school can report incidents in the knowledge that issues will be handled sensitively, or an increase in prevalence."

Report highlights fire brigade efforts

FIREFIGHTERS are rescuing almost 400 people a year from blazes and road crashes, according to figures from the county branch of the Fire Brigades Union.

Between 1997 and 2006 more than 3,000 people were saved by Kent fire crews. The FBU said the figures were based on Freedom of Information requests, answers to parliamentary questions and official UK fire statistics, and do not include people evacuated for their own safety.

Ricky Matthews of the FBU's southern region said: "Everyone in the fire service knows there is terrible human tragedy behind all these incidents."

"These figures are not a celebration of the work of the fire service. But they do underline that there is hope, help, rescue and survival as well as tragedy."

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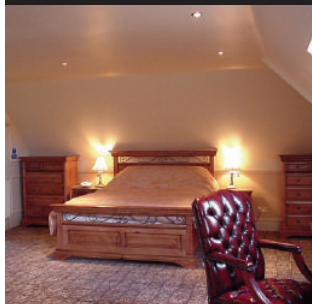
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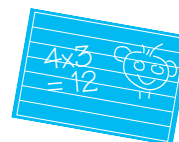
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BREAK TIME



Campus invitation is purely academic

PROSPECTIVE students are being invited to take a look around the University of Kent's Medway campus on Saturday.

The open day gives anyone thinking of entering higher education – whether as a full-time or part-time student – the opportunity to meet tutors, attend subject presentations, see sports and social venues and take a tour of the multi-million-pound Chatham Maritime facilities.

Professor Clare Mackie, the university's vice-chancellor, said: "My message to potential students is that it's their day. All are welcome, as are family and friends, and I recommend making the most of it."

"We have a full programme of tours and events, and above all our visitors will get a real taste of what it is like to study at Kent's Medway campus."

Subjects on offer include business, journalism, creative events, pharmacy, law, social work, criminal justice studies, tourism and dentistry.

Representatives from student finance, the Careers Advisory Service and the Disability and Dyslexia Support Service will be on hand throughout the day.

The open day runs from 10am to 3pm, with light refreshments provided.

For more details call the information, recruitment and admissions office on 0800 975 3777, or visit www.kent.ac.uk.

Double joy as testing times end in triumph

BY SIMON ROBINSON

LUCKY learner Laura Hodge had a day to remember after securing £250-a-month sponsorship to a social care course and passing her driving test within hours of each other.

The 18-year-old is one of nine Mid-Kent College students given a place on the entry scheme, having come through a gruelling application process.

The youngsters gave a formal presentation before facing questions from a professional panel of four.

At the end of the selection process, nine candidates were successful in securing sponsorship on the scheme which pays learners £250 a month for nine months while they are completing their course.

Laura said she was thrilled to learn she had gained a driving licence and a place on the scheme in the same day.

She said: "I'm relieved to have been offered a place on the scheme and excited about the year ahead."

"I can't believe this has happened. I never expected to pass my driving test and get sponsored in the same day. I feel like a star."

The sponsorship package, now in its second year, is delivered in partnership with Medway council and KCHT, a charitable Kent-based company which provides support to the vul-



THUMBS UP: Laura Hodge flanked by Justin Isherwood and Chelsea Hancock, who also secured sponsorship

nerable. Medway council's workforce development manager, Roger Harrop, broke the happy news to the learners.

He said: "This scheme is instrumental in helping raise the status of health and social care as a career, and encouraging students to move into the health and social care sectors in Medway."

Throughout the course of the year Laura

and her peers will undergo regular reviews, ensuring that they meet all targets set and remain eligible for sponsorship.

If they perform anything like last year's exemplary candidates, who were all commended for exceptional commitment to their course when they were presented with their certificates in June, this should prove to be no problem at all.

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Boris's estuary airport idea a flight of fancy

SO LONDON Mayor Boris Johnson thinks an artificial island in the Thames estuary near the Isle of Sheppey is the ideal place for a new airport? Well, I don't.

And nor do thousands of others who have some idea of safety and conservation.

Heathrow handles more than 500,000 take offs and landings a year and it needs to expand due to increased demand.

Well, leaving aside the obvious argument that in terms of economic hardship air travel is one of the first things to suffer, Heathrow should be the continued base for major carriers.

Everything is in place – from immigration and baggage handling to a smartish restaurant where you can get a full English breakfast with wine and beer prior to a flight.

Building the infrastructure a modern airport needs on an artificial island would be an astronomical outlay. It would make constructing the Olympic facilities look like putting up a new stand at a non-league football ground.

And what about the transport links? Heathrow is quite well served by the underground and mainline trains, and a cab into central London isn't too expensive.

But what would this offshore island offer? A high-speed boat to Sheppey or Sittingbourne?

Certainly rail links would have to be vastly improved and roads upgraded. Bridges would have to be constructed to link the whole thing to the mainland as well.

How long would all this take? Probably around 20 years if the Channel Tunnel is anything to go by.

We in the UK are not brilliant at large scale engineering projects. They always come in well over budget and at a completion date years later than first envisaged.

Then the question is who is going to pay for the whole thing?

At a time when credit is at a premium and travel companies at risk is there anyone who could come up with the billions and billions of pounds this scheme would need?

Environmental and safety concerns are present as well. The area is an important one

for birds and so would not be the best place for aircraft because of the fears of collision.

It's obvious Boris's airport idea is not really serious – and I say this for one explosive reason.

The USS Richard Montgomery lies in the Thames estuary along with its cargo of extremely volatile ammunition. It is considered too dangerous to even attempt to move a ship which sunk more than 50 years ago.

Yet this sunken bomb is the place where Boris wants to build an airport over the top of.

Surely his advisors must have told him about this potential for his whole airport to be blown sky high, killing thousands in the process?

So we can see this exercise for what it is – an appeal to the voters of west London to show that their concerns about air traffic are being taken seriously by the new mayor.

It's a cynical attempt to win votes and goodwill – but what more do you expect from a politician of whatever party?

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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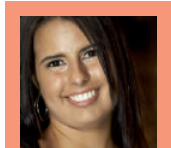


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LOVE IN GOOD TIME
Considerate, honest female, 28, 5ft, fair hair, single Mum, likes staying active, cinemas, seeking kind, honest, fun, caring, outgoing male for love. Box 444511

IF YOU CAN REACH, TAKE ME OFF THE SHELF!
Pettie, dark-haired, blue-eyed female, 30, fun and friendly, bright and bubbly. Bored of being single, looking for a lovely man to take me out! Box 885343

NO TIMEWASTERS!
Easygoing female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTW loving, caring white male 35-47 for long term loving relationship. Box 444214

PILLION DOLLAR BABY!
Slim lady, 31, shoulder-length dark hair, hazel eyes, loves having fun and meeting new people. Mark, the pub owner, please call and leave contact details! Box 443311

HISTORIC MEETING?
Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 806933

LOVE TO LOVE YOU
Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

MEND A BROKEN HEART
Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for happy happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053

COOK UP A STORM
Turnbridge wells based lady, brown hair/eyes, 38, I'm a teacher and love theatre, reading, cinema, swimming, travel. Looking for like minded chap for happy times. Box 444233

FROM ME TO YOU
Tall leggy brunette, 38, recently bereaved, enjoys meals out or nights in, dry white wine, a good movie & cuddles, seeking a male for companionship. Box 887404

A-STAR LOVE
Bright bubbly curvy female, 38, a teacher, loves reading, travelling, swimming, cooking, WLTW adventurous male to share life and hopefully more with. Turnbridge Wells. Box 444623

JUST CALL MY NAME
39yr old female, enjoys going out and trying new things, seeking a similar male for friendship. Box 443822

THE SOUND OF LOVE
Divorced mum, 41, 5ft4, medium build, brown hair/blue eyes, GSOH, likes eating out, bowling, cinema, nights out, seeking like-minded male for friendship first...then maybe more. Box 887416

LOVE AND HUGS REQUIRED
Fun-loving, curvaceous 42yr old, sports loving, slightly 'mad', lots of love to give, suffering from neglect. Needing TLC and hugs... can you help? Box 887854

MOVING ON FROM FRIENDSHIP
Hi I'm 45, 5ft8, large build, blue eyes, non-smoker/driver, devoted Mum, seeking male to share life with, walks, beaches and more. Canterbury. Box 440592

KEEPING COMPANY TOGETHER
Young-looking, South African origin, tall female, 45, long dark hair, seeking caring male, for friendship and hopefully more! Box 444232

HERE WE ARE
Easygoing female, 45, self-employed hairdresser, likes theatre, restaurants, socialising, sofa cuddles, seeking loyal, loving, caring male for good times and more. Box 444672

A MOMENT LIKE THIS
Divorced female, 45, loyal, funny, curvaceous and very romantic, WLTW a faithful and funny guy for a relationship. Box 889366

COULD IT BE YOU?
Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889900

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Understanding, caring female, 45, 5ft4, medium build, brown hair, likes cinema, animals, music, romantic guys, seeking male for cuddles, hugs and more. Box 444873

YOUNG AT HEAT
Compensating, attractive female, 45, 5ft6, big build, red hair, blue eyes, N/S, enjoys good food, country pubs, cinema and weekends away, WLTW 38yr old male. Box 444743

WHISK ME AWAY
Genuine, divorced female, 45, likes listening to music, cinema, weekends away, quiet evenings in, seeks kind, caring, honest gentleman for true love. Box 156703

HAPPY TIMES
Vintage, early 60s female, fun and happy, large build, looking for fun and laughter. WLTW tall, slim guy. Box 444211

HELP ME OPEN UP
Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks. WLTW male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444585

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?
Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

SANDY SEEMS DANNY
Slim, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out & GSOH, seeking trust-worthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 444100

LET'S TAKE A RIDE
Hi, I'm Laura, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLTW gentleman interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles, and perhaps love! Box 444039

ON A PLATE
Caring, honest 49yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead. Likes cinema, theatre, walking, WLTW male for fun and friendship. Box 895928

SWEET THINGS
Single, young looking 49yr old lady, blonde hair, blue eyes. I love nights out and evenings in. Box 886840

HOPE AND LOVE FOREVER
Professional female, 49, brunette, loves the outdoors, good food, good wine, seeking similar as myself for loving relationship. Box 443158

ALL THAT I NEED
Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving & outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out & staying in, seeks similar guy. Box 426833

ENTERTAIN ME
49yr old female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, loving and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854

HELLO BOYS!
Curvy brunette, 50, 5ft5, curvy, brunette, green eyes, WLTW a spontaneous, caring, tallish man to make me smile and feel good again. Box 886862

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE
Help me with my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

JUST IMAGINE
Pettie, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things. WLTW genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

WHITESTABLE WONDERLAND
Hi, I'm Yvette, 50, separated, blonde hair/blue eyes, 12, 5'2", likes cinema, meals and drink out, walking, walking, looking for male, 40-50, for relationship. Box 420160

PUTTER IN YOUR HANDS!
Sporty female, 50, Hastings-based, 5'8", blonde/blue, enjoys golf, walking, socialising, eating in/out, WLTW fun-loving, kind, sporty male, 40-50, 5'10"+, to share life. Box 165367



MEN seeking women

EASYGOING, WICKED SOH!
26yr old single dad, seeking nice girl, twenties, who is looking for a relationship. I'm 5ft8, slim, tattooed, not bad looking! Maidstone area. Box 444941

CAN YOU KEEP UP?
Very sporty male, 33, 6ft2, muscular, green-blue eyes, dark hair, likes clubs, pubs, socialising, seeking female to relax and have fun with, perhaps more. Box 444221

ATTENTION
Fun-loving male, 33, 6ft, blue eyes/fair hair, stocky-muscular build, seeks similar slender female to enjoy life with. Maidstone Box 194378

LARGER LADY WANTED
Muscular white male, 35, 6ft5, hobbies include: weight training, music, reading etc, seeking a medium-large build female for fun, friendship and who knows what else. Box 444118

ARE YOU THE GIRL NEXT DOOR?
Active energetic male, 35, loves going out, drinking, clubbing, football, most sports, seeking loving lady to have a dance with. Box 444876

CALL ME UP.
Civil servant, 36, caring, sharing, GSOH, brown eyes, short brown hair, 5ft11, likes the gym, pubs, travelling, reading, cooking, music, seeking female with GSOH. Box 444450

GET THE HEART RACING
Fit, tactile male, 36, 5ft10, enjoys the outdoors, jogging, cycling, looking to meet a girl of similar age, like-minded, for potential testing relationship. Turnbridge Wells. Box 440602

EVERYTHING I DO
Lee, driver, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, WLTW a woman for friendship and romance. Box 888720

REAL MAN
Honest, kind, caring male, 37, blond, 6ft, enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life. WLTW like-minded, genuine female, Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 430440

WARM ME UP
Young happy chap, 38, 6ft, dark shaved hair, brown eyes, great SOH, loves the outdoors, walking, cycling, nights in; seeking slim sensual lady for hugs/cuddles/kisses. Box 443643

SAILING THE SEVEN SEAS
Young-looking male, 38, 5ft9, dark hair, blue eyes, good-looking, no ties, a carpenter, likes the outdoors, seeks lady to sail off and find love with. Box 444937

SIMON SAYS...
Caring single dad, 41, 5'10", average build, young-looking, WLTW lady for friendship evenings out, maybe more. Recently quit smoking! Box 963330

HAPPY CHAP
Good looking, romantic, lively, loving bloke, 42, 5'10", light brown hair, happy with life but would love to share it with someone. Box 886789

FUN AND CUDDLY
42yr old male, 5ft7, blue eyes, enjoys cinema, walking, swimming and cosy nights in, seeking a damsel to rescue and be happy with. East Sussex Box 443933

THE PERSON INSIDE
Muscular male, 42, 5ft8, enjoys many interests, looking for that special lady 25-50, looks unimportant, to love & take care of. Sussex. Box 443460

GO BACK
Non-nonsense male, 42, brown hair/eyes, 5ft8, medium build, works hard, own place, seeking similar female, no hassle/ies, to enjoy cinema, conversation, eating out and more with. Box 444952

MORE FOR YOU, MORE FOR ME
Mature Algerian-origin male, 42, loves clubbing, drinks, very romantic, WLTW nice girl to date with and leading to a possible relationship. Box 444054

LOVE ME DO
Caring and loving male, 43, average looks, self-employed, enjoys wild life, 50-4 and gardening, WLTW a petite female, 30-50, for a LTR. Box 444063

STOP AND STARE
Sincere happy guy, 43, loves sports, keeping active, socialising, looking for friendship or maybe more! Box 444591

OPEN ARMS
Confident male, 42, 5'10", nice build, single dad, own home, loves cooking, going out, sports, WLTW someone similar to me. Maidstone. Box 411411

BIG DEAL IN DEAL
Warm, tactile male, 42, 6ft, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, seeks like minded female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 388967

VEGETARIAN
44yr old sociable, single dad, tall, fit, black hair, loves cooking, countryside animals, looking for a caring and loving female, GSOH for friendship and LTR. Box 434884

MAKING THE MOST OF LIFE
Single dad, 44, 5ft8, blue eyes, brown hair, slim, likes the gym, golf, mountain biking, WLTW shorter lady with nice personality, GSOH, for potential love. Box 443688

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...
Eastbourne guy, 44, 5ft8, single, OHAC, seeking female, 45-55, for company, friendship, and happy future. Get in touch to find out more. Box 444222

DOWN TO MARGARET!
Young-looking, slim male, 43yr old, 5ft10, enjoys beach walks and cinema, WLTW a mature lady for a committed long term relationship. Margate Box 441705

LET'S MAKE A DATE
Genuine sincere down-to-earth male, 44, 5ft5, likes pubs, cinema, bowling, sitting indoors! seeking partnership to get to know and see what happens. Box 445025

MADE TO BE YOURS
Active artistic male, 45, sociable, romantic, likes swimming, cycling, golf, muscular, fit, enjoys cars, motor-bike, golf, rugby, socialising, travel, seeks female for friendship, leading to serious relationship. Box 158489

LAUGHTER AND LOVE
Hi there, 46yr old male, 6ft, looking for a relationship with the right person, GSOH essential, romantic times guaranteed! Box 887474

WHY WAIT?
Clean shaven, happy male, 45, stocky build, 5'10", smoker, single dad, blue eyes, looking for friendship/companship, leading to a LTR. Halesham Box 403792

HOP ON
Very young at heart 47yr old male, seeking genuine person to enjoy walking, cycling, motor-cycling and share life, fun and good times with. Box 445026

TIME TOGETHER
Out going, sporty, 48yr old guy, 6ft, blue eyes, medium build, I'm an engineer and have a motorbike. I'd love to meet an out going woman. Box 444551

WAITING FOR YOU
Fun-loving and laid-back male, 50, 6ft4, slim/medium build, smoker, enjoys cinema, music, travel and country pubs, walks, life, GSOH, WLTW a nice lady to get to know of any age. Box 439922

JOIN ME, COMPLETE US
Hi, I'm 50 with two grown up kids, love country pubs, walks, life, GSOH, WLTW a nice lady to get to know of any age. Box 439922

LAYING FOUNDATIONS
Single fit builder, 53, looking for friendship or maybe more! I'm 6ft, medium build, fair hair, blue eyes...like the sound of me? Get in touch! Box 887315

LOST WITHOUT YOU
Easygoing professional, 56, full working order, GSOH, enjoys outdoor life, travel and romantic nights in, WLTW tactile soulmate to light up my life, for life. Box 445052

SPECIAL GUY LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL LADY
Self employed male, 55, enjoys trips to the coast, music and walking. WLTW a happy go lucky lady for a serious relationship. Box 441013

SETTING SAIL
Young-for-age male, 57, slim, loyal, caring, no ties, self-sufficient Loves life, outside activities, drink, GSOH, socialising, seeks similar lady for friendship, hopefully love. Box 445005

SHALL WE BARGAIN HUNT?
Young-looking 57yr old, great SOH, hazel eyes, blonde hair, medium build, likes car-boot sales, WLTW friend first for drinks and maybe see how it goes. Box 445017

LIKE IT MOST BY THE COAST!
53yr old male, 6ft, brown hair, blue eyes, own company enjoys coast, countryside, seeks female, 40-60, for true love. Box 782026

Men seeking men

A DRINK AND A HUG...
I'm 26, 5ft9, brown hair, green eyes, medium build, a happy person who likes having lots of fun, restaurants, pubs, clubbing, WLTW a similar loving man. Box 886623

EASYGOING GUY
Slim guy, good looking, blue eyes, 28, 6ft tall, laid back, and looking for a male to have fun with, and see where it goes. Canterbury Box 444940

PASSION AWAITS
British-Scottish-Portuguese male, 55, medium height, Latin-looking, sturdy built, enjoys art galleries, food, swimming, ballet, seeking nice male to start friendship and maybe more with. Box 444909

HOW DOES THIS GRAB YOU?
Tony, 58, easygoing, friendly, medium build, in good shape, enjoy quiet nights in, DVDs, videos, photography, WLTW easygoing like-minded male for fun, friendship and more. Box 440541

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HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 394013

CANTERBURY TALE

Single mum of 2, 32, WLTW someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call again, leave contact details! Box 406670

READY TO START AGAIN!

Nice, fun-loving single mum, 1, 32, 5'7", brown hair, like cinema, walks, WLTW caring male for friendship, maybe leading to LTR. East Sussex. Box 409416

THE TRUTH ABOUT RUTH

I'm Ruth, hard-working, kind, caring, 33, brown hair, brown eyes, nice smile, seeking down-to-earth and loving male to get to know and see what happens! Box 901072

FUN-LOVING FEMALE

Attractive, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Turnbridge Wells. Box 338734

YOU WON'T REGRET IT

Curvy brunette, 5ft4, hazel eyes, single mum, looking for that special passionate and caring man to share good times with. Box 443256

SEIZE THE DAY

Caring and friendly female, 36, attractive, considerate, outgoing, loves to travel and walks on beaches, seeks similar male for potential long term romance. Box 443392

ALONG THE SHORE

Brunette female, 39yrs old, single mum, enjoys socialising, DIY, romantic moments and family activities, WLTW a male with similar interests for friendship, maybe more. Box 442393

ANIMAL LOVER?

Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557

CHAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

Lovely single mum, 38, 5ft4, blonde, slim, loves socialising, good fun and chatty, WLTW similar male for fun and laughter, maybe leading to LTR. Box 372889

WE ARE FAMILY!

Attractive brunette, kind, caring, genuine, 39, 5ft10, WLTW very good-looking, fit gentleman, loyal, caring, honest, to enjoy walks, music, dancing, cooking, family life and more with. Box 374656

IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS

Caring sensitive female, 39, looking for a fun, friendly, outgoing male who likes astrology, walks, cinema, eating in/out and more. Box 444498

NO TIES

Lovely, bored, professional Turnbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTW slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 443573

YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL

Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, WLTW a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102

TOO MUCH TO ASK?

Genuine female, 41, 5'3", brunette, brown eyes, medium build, enjoys meals out, music etc, seeks male, 38-42, for romance. Box 155275

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Hello, I'm Nikki, 41yr young, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, cinema and dancing, seeking a male for friendship, possible romance and fun times. Box 444796

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Women seeking men

CANDLELIT CUDDELES!
40-year-old gay woman, likes nice wine, candlelight, the sea, passionate people and places, muddy walks and cosy nights in, WLTW gay woman for friendship/relationship. Box 894541

ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY LADY
52yrs, 5ft8, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship Box 414145

yourcompetition

WIN a pair of VIP tickets to Festival New Orleans

OCTOBER 24-25 will be a weekend to celebrate New Orleans style, as the Deep South's finest exports have joined forces to provide what can only be described as two days of 'food for the soul' at the O2 Arena in Greenwich.

Not only is there going to be entertainment from some of the very best jazz performers in the world, but there will also be a plethora of the most delicious, typically Louisiana Cajun/Creole food.

Nearly all traditional Cajun/Creole food contains this one key ingredient – Tabasco. Tabasco is the native New Orleans hot pepper sauce, created in 1868, it has been a



staple ingredient in the Louisiana culture for 140 years.

In addition to soul moving performances from the likes of Dr John and Allen Toussaint, there will be cookery demonstrations from Tabasco's very own UK chef who'll be more than happy to give out some samples and may even need

a hand from the audience.

Festival New Orleans promises to be a fun event full of mouth-watering delicacies and musical excellence. And with the New Orleans All Saints over for Sunday's NFL game, there'll be no other option than to really embrace the Deep South's way of life.

This will be one of the largest ever celebrations of New Orleans culture outside of Louisiana and the USA. To

help celebrate, we've teamed up with Tabasco to offer one lucky winner plus a guest an exclusive VIP trip to Festival New Orleans at the state-of-the-art O2.

The prize includes a return trip on the Thames Clipper, free access throughout the event to the private VIP lounge, private cash bar and a hamper of Tabasco goodies. Five runners-up will also receive a hamper of Tabasco goodies.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Tabasco Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is October 15, 2008.

Question: When was Tabasco created?

No purchase necessary. For our full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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DAY TRIPS

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Cambridge or Duxford Air Museum	23 Oct	£23
London Zoo	25 Oct	£29
Chessington – Halloween – Hocus Pocus	26 Oct	£35
Lille & Euralille	28 Oct	£30
London Museums	29 Oct	£15
Thorpe Park Halloween Fright Night!	31 Oct	£39
Ghent By Tunnel – Monday Special	3 Nov	£25
Ypres Battlefield Tour & Last Post	7 Nov	£39
Lakeside or Romford Market	8 & 22 Nov	£17
London Showtime – Choice of shows	15 Nov	fr £47
Bruges By Tunnel – Monday Special	17 Nov	£25
Christmas at Blenheim Palace	22 Nov	£35
Classical Spectacular – Royal Albert Hall & Lunch	23 Nov	£83
Bruges at Christmas – by Tunnel	30 Nov & 7 Dec	£30
Cite Europe Christmas Shopper	2, 9 & 18 Dec	£19
Joseph – The Musical	3 Dec	£54
Dickensian Market-Rochester	6 Dec	£17
Romford Market	6 Dec	£17
Lille at Christmas	6, 7 & 13 Dec	£30
Hever Castle at Christmas	11 Dec	£26
Arras at Christmas	13 Dec	£30
Ghent at Christmas	14 Dec	£30
Bruges at Christmas by Tunnel	14, 21, 22 Dec	£30
Ostend at Christmas	20 Dec	£30
Ypres at Christmas	20 Dec	£30
Disney High School Musical on Ice	27 & 28 Dec	£45
Brighton Ice Show "Mystery"	10, 11, 17, 18 Jan	£39
Cirque de Soleil "Quindam"	17 Jan	£85
Sound of Music - The Musical	25 Feb	fr £49

^ other dates available ^ CALL FOR CHILD & SENIOR PRICES



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Treat yourself & complete your Xmas shopping at the same time – what a great combination! The markets not only offer a wide array of gifts, usually all sold from pretty little wooden stalls, but traditional fayre too. Some towns have ice rinks and other special seasonal attractions. Includes: 4* hotel (BB), 1 full & 1 half day excursions.



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TALK TIME

BRIAN THOMPSON

The owner of the Fine Art Gallery in Strood talks about his thriving business, teaching people how to paint and his maritime connection



Tell us a little about yourself

I trained at Medway College of Art – now the University for the Creative Arts – in illustration and commercial art. In search of adventure, I went into the Merchant Navy for six years. My relationship with the sea still shows in my paintings.

I started my own advertising and printing business and now own the Fine Art Gallery and framing service in Frindsbury Road, Strood. I also teach watercolour painting.

Tell us more about the gallery and your classes

The gallery stands in spacious gardens with its own studio and art gallery. I began trading in 2002 as well as specialising in teaching beginners. Classes were held at the studio for two years and then expanded throughout Medway and Hoo. Courses have now been established in Twydall, Hoo, High Halstow, Gravesham, Sole Street and Maidstone. Children's art classes are also held on Saturday mornings. The courses cover basic drawing and painting in watercolours, acrylics and pastels. Many students who started out as beginners are now exhibiting work and acquiring sales and painting commissions. We do commissions, display original paintings and prints and offer one-day workshops and watercolour demonstrations. We also provide canvas stretching and picture framing services and sell digital canvas prints up to A3 size as well as art materials and equipment. The Indigo Art Group also meets monthly with a varied programme. Visits to national and local exhibitions and painting trips are also arranged.

For more information, call the gallery on 01634 295195 or visit www.thefineartgallery.co.uk

YOUR LETTERS

Glad Sylvia puts a smile on your face

I moved to Rochester in July and commute every day from the railway station.

I have been meaning to write for some time to say that the lady who hands out Yourmedway on a Wednesday morning is such a cheerful person and always has a friendly greeting which puts a smile on my face.

I thought you would like to pass this on to her as she is doing a great job for you.

With thanks and best wishes.

Joanna Dodd, by email.

Editor's reply: Thank you for your kind words which have been passed on to the distributor in question, Sylvia Plumb. Our distributors do a fantastic job in all weathers, making sure our readers get their copy of Yourmedway fresh off the press. It's good to know they are appreciated.



Families deserve housing boost

The £3m funding boost for more family homes reported on your



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourmedway.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourmedway.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Medway as well as our villages.

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website is very welcome, considering the Tories have spent vast sums of council taxpayers' money on hare-brained traffic schemes in Chatham, which could have been spent on affordable homes.

I only hope the money is ring-fenced to help those most deserving in our community who are desperate for a home.

Tristan Osborne, Rochester,
comment posted on web story at
www.yourmedway.co.uk

Climate protestors should cough up

Football clubs have to contribute to the cost of policing matches, so I suggest the organisers of the climate camp contribute to the costs caused by their actions.

Having witnessed the protest, the whole affair was a complete flop which

received very little support from the public, although the press seemed to want us to believe otherwise.

Brendon Pocock, Stoke, Isle of Grain, by email



A nice little earner at the roadside

I agree with Mark Ashworth that war has been declared on motorists (letters, last week).

It has been proven beyond doubt – with examples such as cameras being built into new roads when the claim is they are only put in known accident areas – that they are revenue raisers.

A recent official report states that only three per cent of accidents are caused by speed. If as much money was put into



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preventing the other 97 per cent of accidents as is spent on erecting useless speed cameras, maybe we would get part way to reducing the carnage on our roads.

Sadly, cameras are an easy way out and a good earner, so the real problem drivers see on the roads every day will largely continue to create mayhem and go unpunished.

Phil Granger, by email



Shot down in flames over huge emissions

Mayor of London Boris Johnson is advocating a new airport in the Thames Estuary.

Since UK residents are already making more flights than people in other countries, we need to cut flying in order to reduce emissions.

Green Party members of the Greater London Assembly have already forced Mr Johnson to meet with the RSPB concerning his proposal. There is also the issue of the London Array wind farm.

Does Mr Johnson think jumbo jets are going to slalom down the estuary through the wind turbines?

The 341 turbines proposed will be up to 175 metres high over an area of about 94.6 square miles.

We need the electricity for 750,000 homes the Array will produce, not another airport.

The Green Party advocates a £100 tax on internal flights to push people to use rail for long journeys within the UK.

Each UK household is making about one third of its carbon emissions through flights.

Even more surprising, the UK is

top for aviation emissions per adult, far ahead of the USA. Each UK adult averages about 603kg of carbon from aviation use per year. The US average is only 275kg.

Domestic tourism and rail travel to the continent can substitute for flights, helping boost tourism.

Kent Green Party wants Rochester, Manston and Lydd airports converted to other leisure uses to support domestic tourism, not international flights.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party

Get your eyes tested

Playing a blind character in BBC 2's Beautiful People TV series has given me an insight into what it might be like to live with blindness.

In preparation, I met blind and partially sighted people who showed me how they go about their lives. But it also made me value my sight.

Every day in the UK, 100 people begin to lose their sight. But, shockingly, half of sight loss can be avoided. That's why I am supporting the RNIB's Eye Health Week, which runs until Sunday.

The charity is encouraging us all to look after our eyes by getting regular eye tests, not smoking and eating our vegetables.

An eye test can spot a sight-threatening condition before you know you've got it and could save your sight. For more information, visit www.rnib.org.uk or call 0845 766 9999.

Meera Syal, actress and RNIB supporter



MEERA SYAL



Estuary airport has been rejected once

I am completely opposed to the construction of an airport anywhere in the Thames Estuary.

Immense damage would be caused to the area's internationally important wildlife and the wider environment.

The whole issue was exhaustively investigated between 2002 and 2005 in the Government's Aviation White Paper.

All the key players, including the aviation industry, contributed.

The idea of an airport in the estuary was conclusively ruled out and upheld by the High Court.

Gill Moore, from Cliffe, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk

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VARIETY: From Orchestra Baobab, above, to a Welsh soprano, there's music to suit every taste at the Canterbury Festival, as well as poetry from Andrew Motion, below right, and drama from the Footsbn Theatre Company, with the odd comedian thrown in for good measure too

Feast on the arts



City provides the best in entertainment

CANTERBURY FESTIVAL

Saturday to Saturday, October 11-25
Various venues, Canterbury and East Kent

WITH more than 200 events in two weeks, Canterbury Festival has something to offer everyone this year.

From theatre, classical music and dance to stand-up comedy, children's theatre and walks, there is a wealth of great entertainment on offer. Performers from more than 30 countries are taking part and the event has been described as a 'festival of firsts' as a number of exciting international artists visit Canterbury for the first time.

One of the highlights will be the Footsbn Theatre Company's colourful interpretation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which is being staged in a heated circus tent on the Kingsmead Primary School playing field from Tuesday to Saturday, October 18. The famous travelling company, which is now based in France, has not been to Britain since the mid-90s.

Albania's Symphony Orchestra of Radio Television makes its UK debut at Canterbury Cathedral on Saturday, October 25, while global guitar phenomenon José Gonzáles will be at the Marlowe Theatre on Friday, October 17.

The festival will also be linking to the Man Booker Prize for the first time, as Canterbury passes its own



verdict on who should win the literary award at the International Study Centre on Tuesday.

The Really Promising Company performs *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* at the Theatre Royal Margate on Saturday and Sunday, Mappa Mundi put their own spin on the Canterbury Tales at the Marlowe from Thursday to Saturday, and a

series of dark and captivating sketches are brought to life in *Between The Devil and The Deep Blue Sea* at the Gulbenkian Theatre on Saturday, October 18.

From the Canterbury debut of Welsh soprano Elin Manahan Thomas in the Cathedral Nave on Thursday, October 23, to the irresistible pop sounds of Africa's Orchestra Baobab at the Marlowe on Monday, October 20, almost every musical taste will be catered for and new sounds can be explored.

There will be plenty of laughs on offer too, with shows by Andy Hamilton, Danny Bhoj, Jim Jeffries, Michael McIntyre, Sandi Toksvig and Ed Byrne.

The programme of talks boasts an impressive line-up of fascinating figures, from Poet Laureate Andrew Motion and historian Dr David Starkey, to satirist Craig Brown and rocker Suzi Quatro.

Children will be captivated by Potted Potter and Professor Palm-ermoff's Magic Show, while film buffs can enjoy a diverse programme at the Gulbenkian Cinema. Exhibitions, walks, opera, lunchtime concerts, the Festival Fringe and umbrella events in surrounding areas mean everyone should be able to enjoy a taste of the festival.

Canterbury Festival opens with the carnival parade which begins at Westgate Towers at 5pm on Saturday and makes its way to Dane John Gardens. For full details of the festival listings pick up a free brochure or visit www.canterburyfestival.co.uk.

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BILLY OCEAN

Friday, October 17
Central Theatre, Chatham

GET swept along in the tide of great music when Billy Ocean comes to Medway.

The concert will offer a rare chance to see a global star perform live and enjoy an evening in the company of Britain's biggest ever black recording artist.

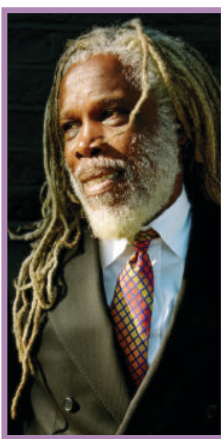
To date Ocean has sold more than 30 million records and is best known for his worldwide hit When The Going Gets Tough (The Tough Gets Going), which featured on the soundtrack of The Jewel of the Nile, starring Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner.

He topped the US pop charts three times with Caribbean Queen, There'll Be Sad Songs and Get Outta My Dreams, Get Into My Car and has also written songs for other artists such as La Toya Jackson.

In 1985 he won the Grammy Award for Best Male Rhythm and Blues Vocal Performance.

Today he continues to win the respect of the next generation of musicians, such as OutKast's Big Boi and hip hop star Warren G.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £23.50/£22. Book online at www.medway.gov.uk/theatres or call the box office on 01634 338338.



MEDWAY LEISURE

The Donn Barcott Band jazz up your evening

JAZZ fans can enjoy an evening of live music tomorrow night, courtesy of The Donn Barcott Band.

The big band will be performing at The 4-4-2 Club in Featherby Road, Gillingham, starting at 8pm. The Sound of Seven will also be playing. There will be snacks available, a licensed bar and a chance to win prizes in the raffle.

Admission costs £5. For more information call the jazz line on 01634 405037.

Jump ahead with a mix of musical styles at gig

MORE jazz will be on offer at the Central Theatre, Chatham, when Kit Packham's One Jump Ahead takes to the stage.

Led by saxophonist Kit Packham, the band crosses musical boundaries to blend swing, jive, rhythm and blues, rock 'n' roll, soul and pop for an evening of effortless fun. The concert will be held in the Cellar Bar at 8pm on Tuesday.

Tickets cost £9/£8. Call 01634 338338 or see www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.

Dramatic opportunity for young thespians

YOUNG people can get involved in drama throughout the week with Spotlites Theatre Company's workshops.

Theatre Zone, held at 7.30pm on Mondays, welcomes people aged 18 to 30 while Kids Spotlites offers activities for children aged five and six on Wednesdays and Fridays. There are also sessions aimed at those aged seven to 11, 11 to 13 and 14 to 21.

All workshops are at Kings Theatre in High Street, Chatham, see www.spotlites.co.uk.

Celebrate 50 years of talent with Joe Brown

IRREPRESSIBLE music star Joe Brown will return to the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, on Friday with his 50th anniversary tour.

He will be joined on stage by his daughter Sam Brown, who enjoyed a huge hit in 1988 with Stop! Her father started his career as a guitarist for the likes of Johnny Cash and Gene Vincent, before forming Joe Brown and The Bruvvers in 1960.

The concert starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £21. Call 01322 220000 or book at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

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See what happens as Joe's two very different lives are played out to the tune of some of Madness' greatest hits.

OUR HOUSE

Monday to Saturday,
October 13-18
Orchard Theatre, Dartford

From the affectionate title track to the poignant It Must Be Love, Our House is a touching tale of life and love, heartbreak and comedy, right and wrong.

Steve Brookstein, the first winner of ITV's X-Factor, makes his stage debut as Dad.

After his convincing victory in the TV talent show, Brookstein's first album sold 250,000 copies.

He is joined by Gwyneth Strong, best known as Cassandra in the classic sitcom Only Fools and Horses. Other screen credits include New Tricks, Real Women and A Touch of Frost.

Tickets are priced from £20. To book call the box office on 01322 220000 or go online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.



METROPOLITAN ENSEMBLE

Saturday, October 11
St Matthew's Church, Wignore

THE Metropolitan Ensemble is the next to perform in the St Matthew's Community Concert Programme.

Featuring local flautist Dan Watts (pictured), the quartet blends the lilting tones of the flute with violin, viola and cello. The programme is likely to include Flute Quartet in D by

Mozart, Por Una Cabeza by Gardel and Le Pera, Air by Bach, Tritsch Tratsch Polka by Strauss and many more.

The ensemble, led by Watts, was formed in 2001 and all the performers are graduates of UK music colleges. They have performed as individuals with some of the country's leading orchestras, on both national and international stages, and recorded their debut CD as a quartet in 2003, as well as appearing on national television.

Watts was born in Rainham and attended St John Fisher School. After studying at various prestigious music schools, he was appointed Professor of Flute at the National Conservatory of Music in Ramallah, Palestine.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £7. To book call 01634 372508, email mattconcerts@hotmail.co.uk or send an SAE to the box office at 42 The Goldings, Rainham ME8 0AX.

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Revel in the new and old India

BY RACHEL O'BRIEN

IT FEELS a bit like the cheat's way to enjoy India – reclining by the pool after a stress-busting massage, with Champagne in hand and an army of waiters standing by. It's a far cry from my friends' tales of budget backpacking and Delhi belly.

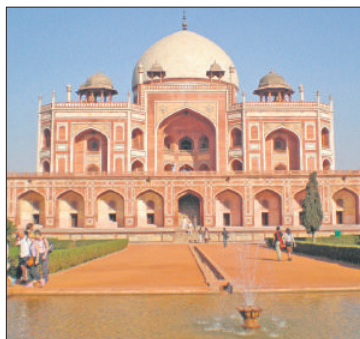
But while this might not be a cheap hippie trail through South Asia, neither is our visit one of old-fashioned opulence, with exotic elephant rides or maharaja-style luxury, as was once sought after by many a well-heeled traveller to the colonial jewel in the Crown.

This is the 'new' India; one of the world's largest economies, with a staggering growth rate of 8.5 per cent in 2006 and 2007, a film industry rivaling Hollywood and a population set to overtake China's by 2030.

Amid vast social and cultural changes, the typical tourist experience is undergoing its own transformation.

We're staying at the Park Hotel in Delhi, which admittedly offers luxury beyond the means of most locals (it has a rather overwhelming staff to guestroom ratio of more than two to one). But as one of the country's first boutique hotels, its contemporary take on Indian hospitality seems a suitable starting point for exploring the changing subcontinent.

Set back from hectic Connaught Place – the commercial hub of New Delhi – the hotel's modern and funky design could be at



STUNNING: Mughal Emperor Humayun's tomb, one of most famous monuments in Delhi, is best enjoyed in the late afternoon sun

home in any cosmopolitan city, but there is an emphasis on Indian traditions presented in a new light.

But Delhi is knocking on the door; we have sights to see and walks around the beautiful Indo-Islamic Qutub Minar, the world's tallest brick minaret (pictured right), or the stunning Mughal-designed Humayun's Tomb, are best appreciated in the late afternoon sun.

Juxtaposed with the stately calm of these must-see sights is the chaos of local people going about their everyday life, with their hands firmly pressed on their car horns.

If your nerves are up to it, hurtle along in a

cycle rickshaw towards the enormous 17th century Red Fort, and get lost on foot in the winding bazaars around Chandni Chowk street. Here the pandemonium of Old Delhi is far removed from the gracious boulevards of Edward Lutyens' New Delhi.

In contrast the next stop on our trip, Chennai, formerly Madras, has a relatively small-town feel – despite being home to well over four million people. The city, a two-and-a-half hour flight south from the capital, is India's fourth largest metropolis and the state capital of Tamil Nadu.

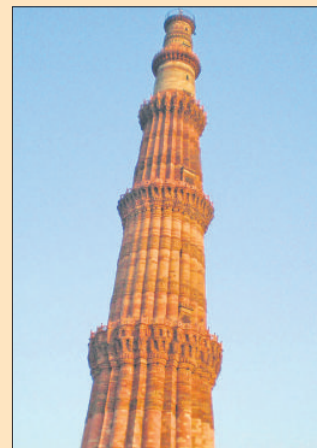
Down here in India's deep south, there is plenty of culture to rival Delhi's offerings. It's well worth the 60km drive from Chennai to the 7th century temples and sculptures at Mahabalipuram, carved with intricate scenes from Hindu mythology and the Panchatantra animal fables.

For a modern-day, but no less impressive, flavour of Tamil Nadu culture, tour the classrooms of the Kalakshetra Foundation, where ambitious youngsters learn the traditional dance form Bharatanatyam. It's a fascinating glimpse into a monastic-like retreat, something akin to a strict spiritual Indian version of Fame Academy.

The relaxed vibe continues back at our base, the city's own Park Hotel, where the pale, bamboo-themed lobby has a more laid-back atmosphere than its bustling counterpart in Delhi.

Amid vast social and cultural changes, the 'new' India provides a totally transforming tourist experience.

FACT FILE: INDIA



Time difference	UK plus 4.5 hrs
Capital	New Delhi
Population	1.1bn
Language	Hindi/English
Climate	Tropical
Religion	Hindu
Currency	Indian Rupee (approx 83 to £1)

Travel details

- Rachel O'Brien stayed at The Park in New Delhi, where prices start at £172 per night for single, £198 for double occupancy. B&B rates at The Park Chennai start at £135 for single and £148 for a double occupancy.
- For reservations call 0800 055 6817.
- Specialist operators to India include Greaves Travel, which currently offers seven-night packages to Delhi and Chennai, including BA World Traveller economy class flights, with Jet Airways flights between Delhi and Chennai, B&B accommodation at Park Hotels, and excursions in air-conditioned cars with guide, from £1,669 per person, based on two sharing.
- Greaves Travel reservations: 0207 487 9111 and www.greavesindia.com

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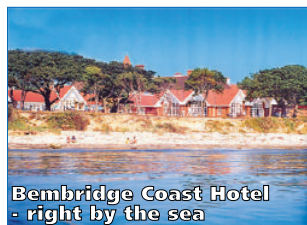
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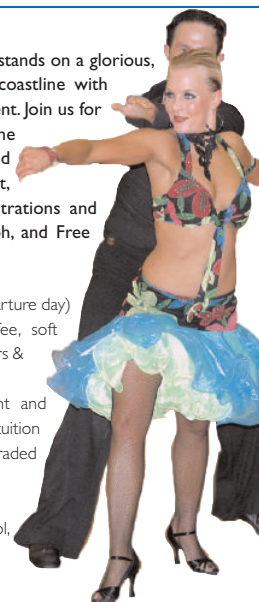


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Sidney Young (Simon Pegg) is a disillusioned intellectual who both adores and despises the world of celebrity. Offered a job at New York-based Sharps magazine, Sidney finds a friend and confidante in colleague Alison (Kirsten Dunst), who helps him navigate the New York social scene and deal with his nightmare boss (Jeff Bridges).

88 MINUTES (15)



Al Pacino stars as Dr Jack Gramm, a professor who moonlights as a forensic psychiatrist for the FBI. The story revolves around death row inmate Jon Forster, who is to be executed by lethal injection as the result of Gramm's testimony. However, while Forster is behind bars preparing for his last meal, a copycat killer is at work in Seattle.

BRIDESHEAD REVISITED (12A)



On an Atlantic crossing, painter Charles Ryder (Matthew Goode) encounters Julia Motttram (Hayley Atwell) who, when she was Julia Flyte in the years between the wars, inflamed Charles with love. That he was previously in love with her brother Sebastian (Ben Whishaw) was an added complication.

Man in the mirror

■ BY ELLIE GENOWER

UNLIKE many actors, Kiefer Sutherland doesn't like looking at himself. For one thing, he only has a single mirror in his house.

And for another, he isn't really interested in seeing himself on film. For a star with a string of hit movies to his name and a successful stint on TV show 24, he is surprisingly down to earth.

"I've always thought I look different in my head than what I see," explains Kiefer.

"I have a hard time looking at myself. I remember I saw Stand By Me for the first time and thought my career was over. I wanted that character to be emblematic of the 1950s and I wanted him to look like Jimmy Dean.

"So in my head, when I'm making it, all those things are there. Then I went and saw it – and it was me. I was really disappointed with that.

"I've always been much happier with what I thought I'd looked like and what I thought I was doing, than looking at the physical reality. I try to avoid it."

Mirrors is the title of Kiefer's new film in which he stars as Ben Carson, an ex-cop turned security guard who is sent to watch over a creepy abandoned building in New York after splitting from his wife and their two kids.

Things take a terrifying turn when he starts seeing scary and violent images in the ornate mirrors which adorn the building's walls. Worse still, the spirits inside begin to take hold of his and his family's lives, with horrific consequences.



ON REFLECTION: Kiefer Sutherland has never been keen on watching himself on film

"One of the things that attracted me to this guy is that he's at an all-time low," explains Kiefer.

"He's lost his job, he's lost his wife and he can't see his kids. You see this guy pick himself up by the bootstraps and go and get a job he really doesn't want in order

to try to make enough money so he can take care of his responsibilities and try to build back up.

"It's hard to do anything right if your confidence or self-esteem is low," he adds. "It's almost impossible. Those are the times you say and do stupid things because

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you're so desperate. I can't speak for anybody else, but I've certainly been there."

Kiefer, who admits he gets scared "pretty easily", was keen to work with French director Alexandre Aja and do something in the horror genre away from 24 (he is immersed in a gruelling filming schedule for the seventh season of the show).

He filmed Mirrors after completing season six of the show, finishing the shoot on weekends.

"Certain opportunities present themselves and you want to take advantage of them," he says about his mammoth workload.

"As an actor, your desire is to elicit a response from an audience. There is no better genre to do that in than this. I can physically move you in your seat.

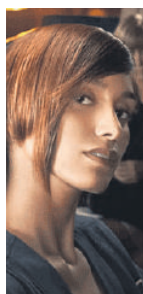
"For me, I get very affected by films. I have a contract when I see a movie between myself and the film which is that I will surrender and give myself up, suspend my disbelief so it will take me somewhere.

"And that makes me very vulnerable to a film like this. So it was a lot easier to make the film than to watch it."



MIRRORS
Certificate 15

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MEDWAY SHOPPING

Your Next purchase will cost less this autumn

FASHION giant Next is holding a huge autumn sale, with hundreds of tops, shirts, shorts and skirts up for grabs at a fraction of their original cost.

The store's 'half price or even less' offer applies online to sale items from the womens, mens, childrens, designer and home lines. Bargains include a pair of Levi's 503 Mid Wash jeans down from £80 to just £40.

View the goods on offer at the retailer's Strood branch before buying online at www.next.co.uk.

Early learning just got cheaper for little ones

THE Early Learning Centre is offering 20 per cent off toys ranging from Thomas the Tank Engine goods to dolls' houses.

Hundreds of items are up for grabs, ranging from music, puzzles and games, to cars and construction kits, at the store in The Pentagon Centre in Chatham.

A sing-along CD player has been reduced from £37.50 to £25, while a Super Scribbler is now just £13.60, down from £17.

For more details see www.elc.co.uk.

Special offer will help you restore your skin

LUXURY beauty products can be yours for less with The Sanctuary.

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For full details and to shop online visit www.thesanctuary.co.uk.

Book in to meet Gok at shopping centre signing

FASHION guru Gok Wan will be signing copies of his new book at Bluewater on Friday.

The TV style consultant's latest book *How To Dress* offers tips on how to dazzle on any occasion, from the beach to the ballroom. It is published by HarperCollins and priced at £18.99.

Wan, who shot to fame in TV show *How To Look Good Naked*, will be appearing at Waterstone's from 5pm. For more information call the store on 01322 624831.

Snap up some limited edition birthday jeans

CELEBRATE Diesel's 30th anniversary by picking up a pair of its limited edition 'Dirty Thirty' jeans.

Produced in both male Heeven and female Matic styles, the jeans will be available for just one day at the Bluewater store on Friday.

They will be priced at about £30 and 30,000 pairs have been produced for sale in the Diesel stores worldwide.

The first ten customers will get the chance to join one of the parties Diesel is planning in 17 cities around the world on Saturday.

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YOUR TV REVIEW

JAMIE'S MINISTRY OF FOOD
Channel 4, 9pm, Tuesday

■ BY TOM BETTS

IT must be about ten years since Jamie Oliver burst on to our screens riding his Lambretta, sliding down the bannisters of his flat's staircase and being a little bit too chirpy for his own good.

As he whizzed about calling people 'dahlin' and 'geezer' a nation swooned at the informality of it all.

Then, before anyone had said 'vanilla pod', he'd bagged a megabucks supermarket deal and sold a squillion books.

Not bad for someone whose main aim in life was to knock up a bit of 'pukka grub'.

Whether you loved it or hated it, The Naked Chef made a huge impact and brought cooking to a generation with an ever-increasing dependence on kebabs and McDonald's.

His Jamie's School Dinners campaign and TV show was a deserved big hit, and caught the attention of politicians as well as couch potatoes.

Sainsbury's adverts and fake dinner parties aside, it's hard not to have a grudging admiration for the chef.

Perhaps I even became, gulp, a fan.

A decade later from those Naked beginnings and umpteen different shows on, the munching maestro's latest attempt to educate us mere mortals in the ways of food was last week's big show.

Jamie's Ministry of Food is back next Tuesday night for the third of the run.

This time around he's trying to teach the non-cooking masses how to knock up a plate of meatballs and pasta and other such dishes for dimwits.

After the ordinary Jamie at Home,



HOB TO IT: Jamie Oliver aims to educate the nation in the ways of cooking in his new show

his last effort, the loveable Mockney needs a hit in his saucepan, but it's hard to ascertain if this will be it, mainly down to a lack of originality and the sense that this is not much more than a rehash of the schools campaign.

The success of that clearly led the team behind this one to simply think they could do the same, only with adults.

It may be a worthwhile cause, but it's just not all that entertaining a second time around.

He deserves a better format than this, something a bit fresher and edgier.

We know he loves his name before the title so how about Jamie's Jamies, in which he only exclusively teaches other Jamies to cook?

With the way it's going, it could happen – and it might be a little more exciting than this.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

IT'S worth exploring an opportunity to make money from your creative talents. Your income could arrive in fits and starts, but that won't bother you. During the fiscally flush times, you need to put some money into savings to keep your afloat during tougher times.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

YOU'LL have to be very assertive with a bashful person. Although you're not especially outgoing, you need to push yourself if you're going to get what you want. It may not be easy to gain access to an educational or cultural institution so be patient and wait a wee while.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

WHIPPING your household into order makes you feel more calm and settled. This is a wonderful time to clear clutter. Hold a yard sale, donate stuff to charity, and throw the rest out or you'll feel blocked and tired. You could make a tidy profit from some creative efforts.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

YOUR powers of seduction are potent and passion packed. Someone in your social circle could catch your fancy. Say a few suggestive things and then make a strategic retreat. You'll soon have them eating out of your hand. Inject a little excitement into your life.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOUR love life is crackling with electric excitement. If you're single, you could meet someone special. Keep your eyes open for a dark, mysterious person with lots of magnetism. If you're in a relationship, this would be a good time to go on a vacation. This trip is for adults only!

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

YOU'RE going to be very busy this week. Relatives can help you with childcare and other domestic responsibilities. If you're on your own, you can rely on your network of friends to help you in testing times. An exciting career opportunity could be offered to you over the next few days.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOU have a sharp mind, and need mental stimulation to be happy. Fortunately, a clever person who challenges your way of thinking gives you plenty of food for thought as your opposing views give you lots to talk about. Don't let a child take advantage of your generosity later this week.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

WORKING behind the scenes is the way to go. You're tired of always fitting in to satisfy other people. Tackling a project for yourself will lift your spirits. You're making more money than usual, but don't fritter it away. You'd be wise to save as there may be big expenses ahead.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

INTIMACY is the name of the game. Letting down your defences will be a relief. You're tired of being the strong one all of the time. Stop taking on so many responsibilities and start sharing your problems. When people see how much you've got on your plate they'll help out.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

YOU'RE quite competitive right now and are happy to go to unusual lengths to outshine your rivals. Trust a close friend or lover's criticisms, as they will help polish your performance to diamond brilliance. Resist the urge to analyse the life out of a close relationship.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

YOU have an opportunity to enhance your fiscal fortunes. It may be necessary to drive a hard bargain with a potential employer and be prepared to walk away from a bad deal. In a few days time you could be given a much better offer. Try not to fall prey to sentimentality.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

YOU work best as part of an ambitious team. That's because your ideas get better when you run them past critical thinkers. Take their suggestions to heart, as they will make you a better worker. Being receptive to criticism could build bonds between you and a true professional.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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No57

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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

EASY

5		3	8	9	6	1	7	
7					4	9		
2	8							5
			9	1			4	
6	5					2	9	
8			5	2				
4							9	7
		5	4					6
6	2	3	7	9	5	8		

MEDIUM

		6			1			
9			4				7	
7	4		3		1			
	1	9	5		7	8	2	
		8		4		5	7	
	2			8			9	
	9	3						
			9			2		

HARD

5		9			2			
			7	5		4		
4	1				8	6		
2							1	
		6				7		
	9						8	
		7	6			2		4
		3		7	5			
		1				8		7

CRYPTIC CLUES

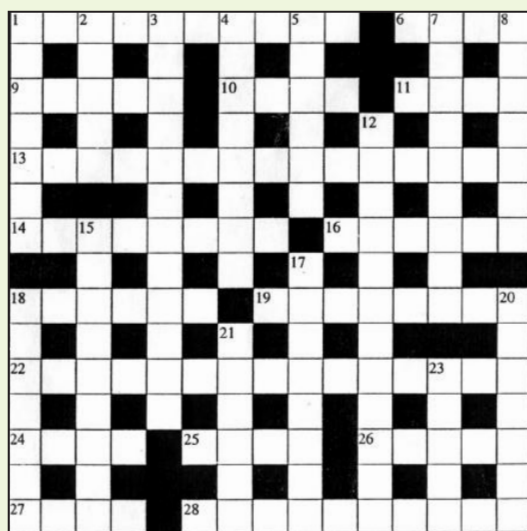
ACROSS

- 1 Vehicle's standing charge (7,3)
- 6 Medico leaves Russian capital boat (4)
- 9 Proper privilege (5)
- 10 Confident of finding ancient city in London area (4)
- 11 Telephoned back to growl (4)
- 13 Grudging another movement in catchment area (9-6)
- 14 Went off and destroyed the theory (8)
- 16 Lustful when it's full of vapour (6)
- 18 Whale, blue, swimming with Georgia (6)
- 19 Fastest one caught Kay in search (8)
- 22 Restore matters - after they had been dropped on the floor? (4,2,3,6)
- 24 Indian seen in window (4)
- 25 Having been aware of some transgression today (4)
- 26 Carp about a base out east (5)
- 27 Got a new garment! (4)
- 28 Animals are barred from crossing this (6-4)

DOWN

- 1 Groupie capsizing canoe (7)
- 2 Dictionary he devised synonymously (5)
- 3 Ultimately like marathon competitors (2,3,4,3)
- 4 Chatted about scandalmonger with newsmen (8)
- 5 A green concoction to provoke fury (6)
- 7 Joined opposite having taken food round cooler (9)
- 8 It is ordinary without a 24-hour period in the week (7)
- 12 Round which it is extremely cold (6,6)
- 15 Beastly law-enforcer? (6-3)
- 17 Excluded dour lute playing (5,3)
- 18 Johnis church? (7)
- 20 Model on sleigh with us inside struggled (7)
- 21 Heard Stanley's taken a few lines (6)
- 23 Hundred more shelter (5)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Savagery (10)
- 6 Gulp down (4)
- 9 Of sound (5)
- 10 Doing word (4)
- 11 Monster (4)
- 13 Tonga (8,7)
- 14 Ill-balanced (8)
- 16 Left the stage (6)
- 18 Became void (6)
- 19 Fourths (8)
- 22 Dickensian character (4,11)
- 24 Bees hum (4)
- 25 Doorpost (4)
- 26 Subcontinent (5)
- 27 Small particles of sand (4)

DOWN

- 1 Modest (7)
- 2 Biblical mount (5)
- 3 Secretly (2,10)
- 4 Evened up (8)
- 5 Root vegetable (6)
- 7 Carriage (9)
- 8 Surmised (7)
- 12 Panacea for longevity (6,2,4)
- 15 Spying photographers (9)
- 17 Fertile female insect (5,3)
- 18 US beetle (7)
- 20 Admirers (anag.) (7)
- 21 Act of lifting (6)
- 23 Destroyed (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No56

EASY

1	5	9	3	7	8	2	6	4
6	8	3	2	1	4	5	7	9
2	4	7	6	5	9	1	3	8
7	1	8	4	6	5	9	2	3
4	6	2	9	3	1	7	8	5
3	9	5	7	8	2	6	4	1
8	7	1	5	4	6	3	9	2
9	3	4	1	2	7	8	5	6
5	2	6	8	9	3	4	1	7

MEDIUM

7	2	4	3	9	1	8	5	6
6	3	5	2	7	8	9	1	4
1	8	9	4	5	6	2	7	3
2	6	8	1	3	7	4	9	5
4	7	1	9	2	5	6	3	8
9	5	3	8	6	4	1	2	7
8	9	7	6	1	3	5	4	2
3	1	6	5	4	2	7	8	9
5	4	2	7	8	9	3	6	1

HARD

3	1	8	6	9	5	7	4	2
6	9	5	7	4	2	8	1	3
2	4	7	3	1	8	5	6	9
4	7	6	1	8	3	2	9	5
8	3	2	5	6	9	1	7	4
9	5	1	4	2	7	3	8	6
5	6	4	2	7	1	9	3	8
1	8	9	5	6	4	2	7	3
7	2	9	8	3	4	6	5	1

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No56

ACROSS: 8 Poleaxing 9 Event 10 Clip-joint
11 Defoe 12 Present company 15 Tote 17
Trick 19 Weir 21 Chapter heading 23 Pique
24 Capsizing 26 Leith 27 Practical. DOWN:
1 Dollop 2 Set-piece 3 Exponent 4 Anon 5
Beldame 6 Beefcake 7 Steelyard 13 Thigh
14 Stockpile 16 Tranquil 18 Knapsack 19
Whizz-kid 20 Utrecht 22 Genial 25 Airy.

QUICK SOLUTION No57

20 Sidearm 21 Uprake 23 Ended
11e 15 Parazizi 17 Queen bee 18 Ladybug
Turnip 7 Wagonette 8 Gussied 12 Elbow of
Bashful 2 Sinal 3 In confidence 4 Levelled 5
India 27 Crat 28 Reverend. DOWN:
22 Dora Coppertied 24 Buzz 25 Jamb 26
Lopsided 16 Exited 18 Lapsed 19 Quarters
Verb 11 Oyre 13 Friendly Islands 14
ACROSS: 1 Bestiality 6 Swing 9 Sonic 10

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

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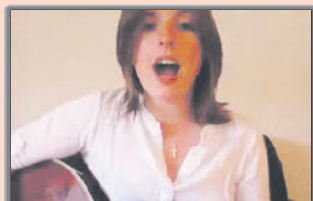
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Kayley strums her latest single -
Chasing Dreams



The Suspects cover The Klaxons hit It's
Not Over Yet

The Kent chart

1. Defrenchy - 48 Mile Smile (from Gillingham)
2. Shotgun Junky - Run Mastered (Maidstone)
3. Swap Meet - No Rehab (Whitstable)
4. Jag - Smile (Tunbridge Wells)
5. Ron Bowdry - Strange Sights On Bluebell Hill (New Eltham)

TUNE IN: See gig listings and vote for your favourites at www.kentunsigned.com. Feature on our site, www.yourkenttv.co.uk when you upload your songs and clips.

Up front Tracyanne tells all

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE thin line between professional music journalist and gushing over-the-top fan is at times difficult to maintain.

Even the most hardened hack has been known to regress into nothing more than a blubbing mess once given ten minutes on the phone or a quick face-to-face with their very-literal 'pop idols'.

I had visions that interviewing Camera Obscura's singer songwriter Tracyanne Campbell would temporarily transform me into a 15-year-old smitten schoolboy and so I took the necessary steps to protect my journalistic integrity.

Using the social networking powerhouse that is Facebook I invited fans who have bought tickets to the Scottish indie pop rockers' Canterbury gig to submit their questions to Tracyanne, giving me little room for an 'unfortunate' ad-lib.

A selection of the best are below:

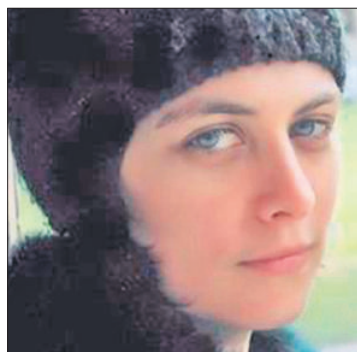
Valerie asked: Who are your musical influences?

There are millions of influences, too many to mention. I suppose if I had to list a few I'd say Dion, Diana Ross and The Supremes and Kris Kristofferson. I like singer/songwriters.

Ruth asked: why do you think the music industry is so male-dominated and why are there so few women in bands?

The world's male dominated. The reasons for that are probably too heavy and many to go into this morning. I don't think there are so few women in bands. Each day it becomes more acceptable for women to be fronting bands. Maybe the person who asked that is reading the wrong music magazines, which are full of the skinny jeans brigade. I mean, I'm a girl in a band and have been for a long time. I have experienced some extent of sexism in the industry but it hasn't stopped me from doing what I want to do.

Kerry asked: If you had to be replaced by any famous male vocalists who would be most suited to the Camera Obscura sound?
I don't know. I think Dion would be great. He can



LEADING LADY: Camera Obscura's Tracyanne Campbell says it has become more acceptable for women to front bands

come in and do what I do. I think he would do a great job and would make our music better.

Vince asked: What made you choose Super Trouper as a cover version?

We made the album in Sweden and we like ABBA, or at least some of us do, and were asked to do a radio session so we just played that song. We've done it at a few gigs since and people seem to quite like it.

John asked: How much emphasis do you put on chart success and album sales?

None. It's not relevant these days. People who aren't in bands don't realise how the industry works. Back in the day chart success was everything but it doesn't work like that nowadays. I would bet most of the people who have our music haven't bought our albums. Getting into the Top 10 is nothing we think about, which is a bit sad. I'd still be really excited if we got high up the charts but don't see it as important.

Jodie asked: You've been reported as dismissing the oft-used Belle and Sebastian comparison as 'lazy journalism'. Who would you compare the band to?

I don't want to compare the band to anyone else. There's nothing I find more boring than reading

a review of a band where the journalist compares them to someone else. I don't want to say 'listen to us because we sound like so-and-so'. However, if someone did compare us to someone we like or have been influenced by I think I would be more flattered than dismissive.

I asked: Have you played in Canterbury before and why did you choose to play there?

No, we've never been there before so it should be a lot of fun. I'm told it's beautiful there, in the Garden of England. We took the gig on because we wanted to keep our hand in in terms of playing live. We've been doing festival dates but we don't really start going until next year. We were asked to play in Canterbury and so we thought we'd build a little tour around that night, playing in places we've never played before or have only played once.

I also asked: What can we expect on the night?

We'll try and play a wee bit of everything. We've recorded our new album so we'll try and play a few new songs but that might be difficult as we haven't rehearsed since we finished in the studio. Maybe we'll do a completely different set to the one we normally play in London or Glasgow. It's always difficult to know what people want.

Andy asked: Your plectrum tin was recently stolen during a gig in Manchester. Has it been returned yet?

No. I don't think it ever will be. I'm over it now. I made an appeal on our website for it to be returned as I'd had that tin from the first time we ever went on tour; it's been all over the world with me. Someone very close gave it to me and it was also a handy wee tin to keep my plectrums and capo in. I normally kept the tin on top of my amp but for this gig put it near my pedal board. As we went off I remember thinking 'should I take this off with me?' but then decided against it. When we came back on for the encore it was gone.

• Camera Obscura play the Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury on Thursday October 16. Tickets cost £12 and £14. For more details visit www.canterburyfestival.co.uk.

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PROPERTY NEWS

Labour 'will not scrap targets'

HOUSING and planning minister Caroline Flint has insisted that the Government will not scrap its housing targets which have been set out for the next 12 years.

Her comments, made at the Labour Party conference in Manchester, came as a housing expert warned that the current credit crunch was undermining the target of up to three million new homes by 2020.

Thousands of new homes have been proposed for the county, with the Thames Gateway and Ashford the principal proposed growth areas.

Planners insist fluctuations in the housing market have been factored into calculations.

However, National Housing Federation chief executive David Orr warned the 2020 target could be missed by up to nine years without further Government intervention in the housing market.

Mr Orr claimed that without radical action, only just over half the target is likely to be built by 2020. He calculated that on present showing 1.6 million homes could be built by the end of the next decade.

And he said housing associations could more than double their present building rate, with help from the Government, to make the target more feasible.

Mr Orr said: "With the global credit crunch worsening and conditions getting tougher for all housebuilders, it is time to recognise that the very commendable 2020 target is now almost impossible."

Ms Flint, though, stressed that the original 2020 target remains in place.

She told the party conference: "Sceptics ask me to scrap our target of 240,000 new homes a year – three million more homes by 2020.

"They want us to admit defeat. We won't give up that easily. Labour will build the homes Britain needs."

Signs of life

THE housing market is picking up after the summer, according to Ward and Partners estate agency.

Analysts say that instead of it remaining slow, trade is increasing.

"It's too early to say things are definitely on the up," said regional managing director Lee Crane.

"But Government schemes introduced to help buyers, such as stamp duty reform and low interest loans, have helped. September saw an improvement in sales."

Making sacrifices in pursuit of the dream

■ BY NICK AMES

THE average first-time buyer thinks it will take two years of saving to reach the £19,100 they believe is necessary for a deposit on a home.

The news comes from a survey by the Co-operative Bank and Places for People.

The survey also found that 54 per cent believed renting was "throwing money down the drain".

A large number, 91 per cent, said they were willing to make sacrifices to achieve their homeownership dreams – up considerably from just 57 per cent before the credit crunch kicked in.

The top sacrifice, made by 53 per cent, was stopping eating out, with holidays and weekends away also ruled out for 50 per cent.

And 46 per cent had lowered their expectations when it came to properties they were viewing.

Of these, 49 per cent were willing to do without the luxury of an extra bathroom, followed closely by a veto on garages.

But while 40 per cent were willing to see their outdoor space shrink to secure a sale, 78 per cent of first-timers simply would not entertain the prospect of no garden at all.

Victoria Drummond, operations manager for Ownhome, a shared equity scheme offered by the Co-operative Bank and Places for People, said: "This research shows that the dream of owning a home is now out of reach for many first-time buyers as they struggle to save for a deposit against a backdrop of soaring house-



BANK ON IT: First-time buyers will need to save hard and give up a few of life's little luxuries to get that deposit

hold bills and the increased cost of living.

"As a result, many more people are being entrepreneurial and making sacrifices in a bid to try to claw their way onto the property ladder including cutting down on eating out, holidaying in the UK rather than abroad, and swapping supermarkets to drive down their

food bills.

"It is essential that the Government and the housing industry continue to offer simple, clear and innovative products that provide first-time buyers with the essential financial support needed to help them take their first steps on to the property ladder."

'No evidence' of firms hoarding land

THE Office of Fair Trading has backed the housebuilding industry after accusations that property prices were being affected by developers hoarding land.

The review, which began in June 2007, concluded that the

industry remained broadly competitive, with prices of new-builds having to compete against those of older properties.

The organisation also ruled that there was no clear evidence of any one developer having a continu-

ing market advantage over the rest.

The report concluded: "We have not found any evidence that homebuilders have the ability to anti-competitively hoard land or own a large amount of land with

planning permission on which they have not started to build.

"Apart from the homebuilding firms, the available information suggests that the largest 'land-bank' may be that held by the public sector."

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Rainham Office Tel: 01634 374953
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Strood



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Isle of Grain



£116,000

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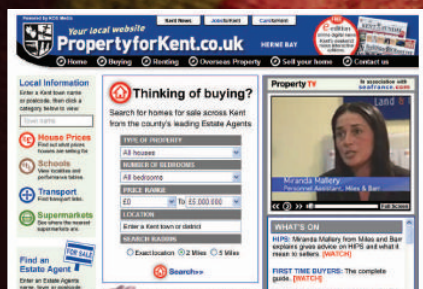


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MOTORS NEWS



Dealership does right thing in re-hiring Daniel

MOTORLINE Renault Ashford bosses were wise to re-hire Daniel Peattie – he has sold 14 Renault vans to one customer. Daniel (pictured left) returned to the Hilton Road dealership after working for his father and landed the order by property maintenance specialists Roalco.

Daniel said: "I would love to take all the credit, but I think it really comes down to the reputation Motorline Renault Ashford has built up over the years." But Roalco's Graeme Rayner (pictured right) argued: "It was Daniel's customer service which shone through, as he took care of absolutely everything from the sale of the vans to kitting them out."



Simon saddles up to raise money for charity

DUTTON Forshaw Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge parts advisor Simon Cousins used pedal power to raise nearly £200 for the Aspinall Foundation animal conservation charity.

He took part in the Totally Wild Challenge in aid of wild animal parks at Howletts, near Canterbury, and Port Lympne. Simon said: "It was a great way to raise money for a good cause."

His dealership at Broad Oak Road, Canterbury, has also supplied two Jeeps and a Dodge to help Aspinall Foundation conservation work.



Wait is almost over to sample joys of Infiniti

NISSAN chiefs must be fuming at global financial woes just as the Japanese marque finalises its UK/European launch of the Infiniti luxury brand.

Infiniti has re-tuned its line-up for this side of the Atlantic, only to find their size and power now out of step with our new downsizing trend. Nevertheless, Infiniti should launch in April and will comprise initially of BMW 3-Series class saloon, coupé and convertible models and two SUVs/crossovers (FX37S pictured).



REGENERATION: The Skoda Octavia still relies on technology from VW – which owns the company – but the Czech manufacturer has clearly put its own thoughts and care into the car

At last a Skoda that's worth boasting about

FINALLY, Skoda's transformation is complete.

The previous Octavia was the first modern Skoda for which owners needn't apologise. Its replacement is the first they can really boast about.

Price is still important, but does not have to be; anyone could buy an Octavia and be happy without counting the pounds saved.

It still relies on technology from VW – Skoda's owner since 1991 – and the superb balance of handling and ride is courtesy of the latest Golf, but the Czech manufacturer clearly put its own thoughts and care into the car.

There is lots of useful stowage, hinged luggage/shopping bag hooks in the boot and a well-arranged dashboard, even if the interior follows the solid, but rather austere style of its predecessor.

Everything is logically arranged, but doesn't excite and the standard plastic steering wheel feels distinctly unfriendly even if chrome and durable materials appear elsewhere.

Secondly, for a car majoring on boot space – the hatchback can take 560 litres with rear seats in place and a staggering 1,350 when flat

ROAD TEST SKODA OCTAVIA

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

– split folding seats should be standard, but do not appear on entry level Classic versions.

Nevertheless, equipment is generous overall and I am carping about a car that starts at just £11,145, pitching it mostly against cars in the smaller Ford Focus category rather than bigger Mondeo class.

Avoid the asthmatic 75bhp 1.4i Classic entry model anyway; at Skoda prices you would be silly not to go for the VW-derived diesels (from £13,750).

The 105bhp 1.9TDI fitted to our test car or 140bhp 2.0TDI, are refined with lots of punch low down the rev range, allowing the driver to be lazy or sporty with gear changes.

Good news now is that the Octavia is also about to get a midlife makeover so there are good deals on outgoing versions including the hot Octavia vRS hatchback pictured (from £17,900), which gets £1,100 of extra equipment for free.

Apart from the hatchback all-rounder, there is also an estate line-up available with all-wheel drive – a cut-price Audi Avant Quattro – and even a higher-riding Scout 4x4 estate.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



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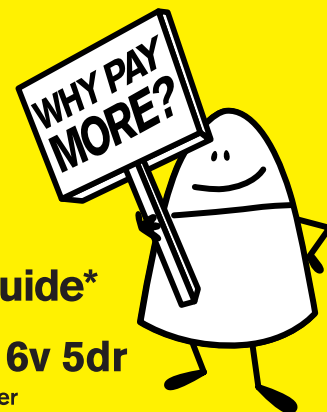
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55 Reg Renault

Clio 1.4 16V Dynamique 3dr
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Parker's Price £6205*

AutoPlanet Price **£5199**

A fair saving of £1006

Choice of **255**
Small cars



07 Reg Vauxhall

Astra 1.6 16V Life 5dr (AC)
A/C • E/Pack • Airbags • CD

Parker's Price £7225*

AutoPlanet Price **£6499**

A fair saving of £726

Choice of **365**
Medium cars



06 Reg Ford

Mondeo 1.8 LX 5dr

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AutoPlanet Price **£5999**

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03 to 56 Reg	Toyota Yaris - Choice of 20	£4,999
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MPVs



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Prestige Cars



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03 to 55 Reg	Mercedes C Class - Choice of 15	£9,499

Large Cars



Choice of **215**

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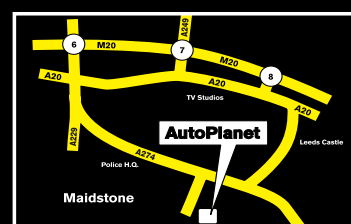
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FRENCH FAMILY HATCHBACKS

IN a market sector where products are increasingly similar, the three French motor manufacturers here have created highly individual 'takes' on the big-selling family hatchback. Where they tend to harmonise is with chic and distinctive interiors, superb turbodiesel engine options and ride comfort – a response to rural tracks and the cobbled streets that still criss-cross many city centres in France. This Gallic charm is not to every buyer's taste though, so the three cars in our 'Franco-file' can also be very affordable second-hand.

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PEUGEOT 307



PEUGEOT used to trump its French rivals in this sector, but faces tougher players now. The 307, launched in 2001 and replaced last year, saw Peugeot acknowledge the trend towards MPV styling and gave the 307 a high roofline, while still offering a conventional estate and MPV-like SW alternative. Along with the original three and five-door hatchbacks and a coupé cabriolet with folding metal roof, the 307 has all the bases covered and a fine range of turbodiesel engines.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CITROEN C4



LIKE Renault, Citroën really needed to pull something special from the hat for its latest family hatch. As a result, the C4 is a far better car than the horribly dull Xsara that it replaced and Citroën has given the five and three-door models a different look each; the former is sleek, futuristic and stylish while the latter is rakish and racy. However, both ride beautifully and share a radical and interesting interior without the irritating quirkiness of old-style Citroëns.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

RENAULT MEGANE



RENAULT'S second generation Megane arrived in late 2002 and proclaimed that, unlike its predecessor, it would look and stay fresh for the full production run – and it nearly has, with a new car about to arrive. The now famous rear end 'bustle' made the car stand out and buyers flocked to Renault's mid-range model this time around. Apart from a sassy image the Megane offers good diesels, state-of-the-art safety, low running costs and scorching Renaultsport versions.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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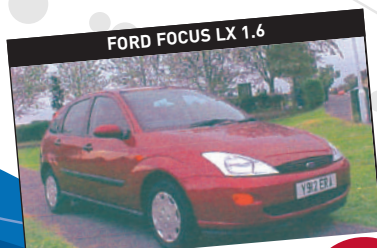
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BENTLEY

ARNAGE, red label auto, 2001, biennial silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

318 SE SALOON, 2002, 02 (02) bmw 318 se (face lift) 4 door saloon, 143 bhp, stunning met grey coachwork with immaculate grey trim, full service history (just serviced) manual gear box, traction control, cruise control, remote central locking, alarm, air con, power seats, ev x 4, electric & folding mirrors, twin air bags, alloy wheels, original cd hi-fi + much more, stunning condition, true luxury at an affordable price. only £7695, metallic grey, 102,000 miles, £7695, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, eight platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0, gk020v, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, S 1.2, gk57px, finished in silver blue with black interior, blue, 1000 miles, £6295, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX 1.6, gk05yh, finished in silver with interior, silver, 3000 miles, £5895, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

MATIZ, 1.0 SE+ Hatchback 5dr 995cc, 56/2006, a/con radio/cd player, electric windows, abs, central locking, metallic blue, 14,000 miles, £4995, Chertion Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7v6 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £19500, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, Le Auto, ex15re, central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, adjustable steering column, power steering, twin air bags, colour coded body, cd player, radio, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric front windows, this vehicle is currently located at our veharush branch, for further details or to arrange a viewing please contact 01322 554 784, black, 34000 miles, £1995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

PT CRUISER, b57yec, anti-theft system, alarm, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, electric seats, head restraints, heated seats, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, folding rear seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, abs, power steering, automatic electric windows, electric mirrors, power hood, air conditioning, cruise control, cd player, alloy wheels, aluminium alloy, 1500 miles, £9995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0203 303 4339 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d x sold with rear warranty side door white pas 43,000 miles fsh lined, £4350, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

C-CROSSER, 2.2 HDI Code 5dr, 2008, 2.2 hdi code 5dr estate, special edition, grey, 1000 miles, £21995, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C-CROSSER, 2.2 HDI Exclusive 5dr, 2007, 2.2 hdi exclusive 5dr estate, purplish grey, 4000 miles, £19995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C11, 1.0i Rhythm 3dr, 2008, 1.0i rhythm 3dr hatch, 2871 miles, £6995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

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SAXO, 1.6i 16v VTS Hatchback 3d 1587cc (2000), 03, met blue, miles, £3999, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

FIAT

FIAT DUCATO 14 2.8 jtd, 02 2002, 14 seats minus rohl tri axle 40,000 miles sold with rear warranty tailift air suspension ex council ideal camper conversion, £6995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

BRAVO 100 SX, 2001 "y", a medium sized car with a 1.6 engine, pas c/lock s/hist very reasonably priced. a 3 month warranty is offered on the screen price and we will take your car in part exchange. a new mot test will be included. blue, 75,000 miles, £1495, Courtney Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

CINQUECENTO, m/1994, manual locking manual windows, red, 74,000 miles, £1995 now £695, Chertion Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

FORD

FORD CONNCT 1220, 12 2004, 1.8 tddi 75 ps white pty lined 80,000 miles fsh sold with rac warranty, £3350, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FORD CONNECT 1200, 05 2004, 1.8 tddi 90 ps white 83,000 miles pty lined sold with rac warranty, £3750, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FORD CONNECT 1200 subv, 12 2005, 1.8 tddi 75 ps sold with rac warranty 17000 while side door lined fsh, 34,000 miles, £5295, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ESCORT, 1.8 SI CONVERTABLE, 1995 (n), 95 (n) ford escort 1.8 si convertible, daytona yellow coachwork with contrasting black leather trim, service history, electric pack, remote central locking, alarm, air con, electric windows, electric mirrors, twin air bags, alloy wheels, cd hi-fi, bargain convertible for the spring. only £1995, datona yellow, 67000 miles, £1995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.8 DIESEL VAN, 1997 (p), 97 (9) ford fiesta 1.8 courier diesel van, 3 door hatch, diamond white coachwork with grey cloth trim, 120000 miles, recent service, new mot, air bag, original hi-fi, bargain diesel van at £995, white, £only 9395, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

FOCUS, zetec, 1999, black, 110000 miles, £2795, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, Type-V, 6186079, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, full leather, electric seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, radio cassette, twin air bags, electric sunroof, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, green, 54600 miles, £3995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S TYPE 3.0, 2003 (03), 03 (53) jaguar s-type v6 3.0 se auto, metallic silver coachwork with grey leather trim, only 42000 miles, full service history, usual jaguar refinements to include: power and memory seats, memory steering wheel position, air conditioning/climate control, electric windows, electric & folding mirrors, cd multiplexer with hi-fi pack, multiple air bags, electronic park brake, on board computer, cruise control, traction control, tinted glass, alloy wheels etc. etc. only £9,995, metallic silver, £9995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.5 V6 SE Saloon 4d 2495cc, 52 2002, 1 owner, service history, electric windows, central locking, power assisted steering, cruise control, electric mirrors, air conditioning, on board telephone controls, radio cassette, 6 stack, cd system, volume and radio controls on steering wheel, front and rear heated seats, air bags, abs, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, immaculate condition, ivory leather trim, gold, 19000 miles, £10995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710665 (TRADE)

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IS, 200 SE, 6450079, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, alcantara leather, electric seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric sunroof, electric windows, electric mirrors, powered folding mirrors, traction control, heated seats, cd player, radio, air conditioning, twin air bags, abs, power steering, rear headrests, alloy wheels, green, 44200 miles, £4495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, GT 5dr, v674du, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, 15" alloys, aluminium alloy, 87000 miles, £2599, Marshams, Maidstone, 01222 20 100 (TRADE)

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B-CLASS, 1.5 B150 SE Hatchback 5d 1498cc Autronic, 57, alloys, isofix, rain sensor, folding mirrors, climate, cruise, cd, 1 owner, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, more b150 hatchback in stock, cosmos black with black cloth, under 12,000 miles, £14995, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

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C-CLASS, 2.1TD C20 CDI Avantgarde Saloon 4d 2148cc auto (2003), 06, 17" 5-spoke alloys, sports pack, partial electric seats, climate, cruise, cd, 1 owner, fsh, £22000 saloon in stock, iridium silver with black leather twin, under 24,500 miles, £15995, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

C-CLASS, 1.8 C200 Kompressor Avantgarde SE Saloon 4d 1796cc auto (2008), 55, sports pack, bi-xenon lights, 17" 5-spoke alloys, climate, cruise, cd, please view our website to view our full stock, more C200 saloon in stock, jasper blue with black leather twin, under 23,000 miles, £14995, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

LANCER, 1.6 Equippe 4dr Auto, 58, a new 58 registered car saving, 30 miles, £3494, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr CVT, k08rft, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group 8, blue, 2000 miles, £14650, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, Erith, 01322 344277 (TRADE)

SHOGUN, 3.2 Di-DC Elegance 5dr Auto, 58, a new 58 reg shogun elegance with diamond styling pack saving, 50 miles, £27994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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KUBISTAR, SE DCI 70, k55xav, remote central locking, immobiliser, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, abs, air bag, metallic paintwork, cd player, pty-lined, tel. 01795 430295, aluminium silver, 45000 miles, £3795, Clearways Commercial, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

SEAT

ALHAMBRA, SX TDI 1.9 130PS 5dr MPV, mar 2004 gk04wg, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, front electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cassette, single cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, air alarm, cruise control, electricdoor mirrors, cool box, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, ad, steering column, seat height adjuster, seven seats, 2 x integrated child seats, indigo blue metallic, 46,500 miles, £11,795, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

AROSA, 3 DOOR, v 2000, an automatic with car that is small with a 1.4 engine from vw, very sought after, this car has power assisted steering, drivers air bag, air conditioning, electric windows, central locking, full service history, with the screen price there is a warranty 6 months road fund licence (tax) and we will take your old car in and if required finance is available (subject to status), dark green, 60000 miles, £2295, Courtney Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

IBIZA, Reference Sport TDI 1.4 80PS 5dr, 2003 7g07zu, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, air conditioning, front electric windows, 5 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player, twin airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, front fog lamps, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, ad, steering column, seat height adjuster, sports seats, split rear alloy, alloy wheels, luna grey metallic, demo miles, £10,410, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

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Ken Pullan on 07725128661

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: **Closing Date Friday 17th October 2008**



Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer



The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

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- Able to value the benefits of quality time spent with the whole family providing holistic care?
- Able to commit to an 8 week rota with regular rotation onto night duty and some weekends? Full and part time hours available but all shifts must be undertaken.

As an Investors In People employer we know how important You are and can offer -

- Structured on going education, support and professional development.
- Competitive salary levels, pension package (including NHS pension if already contributing), pay enhancements for weekends, nights and weekend working as part of our shift system.
- Good annual leave entitlement and an excellent working environment.

Informal visits warmly welcomed. For an application pack contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295

Visit our website on www.demelzahouse.org

Closing Date 17th October, 2008

Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651.

Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ



Registered Charity No. 1039651
A disclosure check will be required for the successful applicant
Demelza House is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.

PLUMBERS/MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS

Experienced plumbers and maintenance engineers required in the Tonbridge, Medway and Maidstone areas. Earning potential £30k plus.

Please contact:

Kevin Wyley, Pro Plumbing Kent Ltd,
PO BOX 492, Chatham, Kent, ME5 9XX
Tel: 01634 682011 • Fax: 01634 682019
Email: proplumbkent@aol.com

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Required. Part time - mainly early mornings. Applicant to have had previous experience of maintaining a building and preferably swimming pools. Applicant must be able to start late November.

To apply please email CV and covering letter to:
Ops.Maidstone@davidlloyd.co.uk
Closing Date 24th October 08

BUSINESS
David Lloyd

Nampak Cartons, one of the Country's leading Carton Manufacturers has a vacancy at their Gillingham site for:

A PART TIME SALES ADMINISTRATOR (on a job-share basis)

Reporting to the Customer Services Manager, you will be expected to work Monday - Friday, 2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m. (although there is a possibility of working until 5.30 p.m. if preferable). You will also be expected to work full-time during all school holidays.

If you are interested in the above role (a job specification is available upon request) then please send a covering letter with a copy of your current CV stating your salary expectations to:

HR Department, Nampak Cartons, Grosvenor Road, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0SA or email Stephanie.Porter@eu.nampak.com

Closing date for applications

Friday 17th October 2008

**IN-STORE LEAD-TAKERS**

required (full and part time hours available). Positions available in Ashford, Belvedere, Canterbury, Dartford, Greenwich, Gillingham, Sidcup, and Tunbridge Wells. Based in the country's No 1 DIY multiple retail outlet, your role would be to generate quality enquiries for Canterbury Conservatories.

Please contact Trish Marsh on 07872 376 137 to arrange a local interview.

AGE CARE

THE ROYAL SURGICAL AID SOCIETY
High Broom Residential Home
Crowborough

"New Position"

NIGHT TEAM LEADER

8.45pm to 7.15am

£7.54 per hour

Weekend Enhancement

Excellent Benefits Package

Have you achieved an NVQ 3 and are you able to take responsibility for the care of our residents, working within a small of night staff?

If so please call Helen on 01892 654027

Closing Date for applications 17/10/08



Little Forest Children's Centre, Tunbridge Wells

Community Involvement Worker

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 per annum
37 hours per week

You will work as part of multi-agency team raising awareness in the community about the range of services on offer in the centre. For those families who do not use the Children's Centre, you will provide important information and access to services, ensuring that the views of children and their families and those of the wider community are sought and included in the development of services in the Children's Centre.

You will need to have strong interpersonal skills with a tactful and flexible approach. You will need to demonstrate a clear understanding of how to support the most vulnerable families to access services to improve the outcomes for children. The role will include the co-ordination of the recruitment, training and management of volunteers to support the running of the Children's Centre.

Ref: CFE/o8/o497

Childrens Centre Cleaner

Starting salary £12,775, with progression through contribution related pay to £13,959 pro rata
15 hours per week

You will undertake the general cleaning of the establishment, including dusting, vacuuming, polishing, cleaning toilets, emptying bins etc to ensure that a clean and tidy environment is maintained. You must be self-motivated and have a flexible approach to your work.

Ref: CFE/o8/o498

Children's Centre Caretaker

Starting salary £13,959, with progression through contribution related pay to £15,826 pro rata
30 hours per week

Providing general maintenance of the building, facilities and associated grounds, you will ensure the safety, security and sound conditions of the building. Other duties include setting up rooms for use, maintaining the outside area and becoming a key holder.

You must be self-motivated and have a flexible approach to your work.

Ref: CFE/o8/o500

Closing date for the above posts: Midday, 21 October 2008.

Policy Support Assistant

Starting salary £16,627, with progression through contribution related pay to £18,288 per annum
Maidstone

An interesting and varied vacancy has arisen within the busy Strategy, Policy and Performance Division.

Working within a confidential environment, you will have the ability to take comprehensive minutes of meetings and use your initiative to prioritise your workload to meet deadlines in a highly demanding environment.

You will have an excellent working knowledge of Word, Excel Outlook and PowerPoint, demonstrate a confident telephone manner and possess a high level of drafting skills. You will also have the confidence and ability to deal with a variety of multi-disciplinary professionals on a range of matters.

You will be a self-starter in order to provide effective personal and administrative support. **Previous applicants need not apply.**

Ref: CFE/o8/o501

Closing date: Midday, 16 October 2008.

All of the above posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote the relevant reference number.



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Elaine
01795 431500

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people.

**REF: 517 - COMMUNITY DRUG WORKERS**

X 4 EAST/WEST KENT & MEDWAY

Salary £20,736 - £26,835 (SCP 25-33) - Pay Award Pending

37 hours per week

Essential Car User Allowance up to £1056

Working closely with medical staff, you will provide assessment and keyworker support to service users accessing the substitute prescribing service. The aim of the role is to assist chaotic injecting drug users to stabilise their drug use and lifestyle.

Significant experience of working with people with drug related problems and a genuine commitment to this client group are essential. You should have a professional qualification in a relevant discipline such as nursing, counselling or social work.

There is scope to be involved in developing associated specialisms within the team.

For application forms contact: **KCA (UK), 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, www.kca.org.uk.**

Closing date: 17th October 2008

Interview date: TBC

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824



The Royal School of Military Engineering Lecturers

Salary c£36k

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We will provide the trades and technical engineering training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

We are currently building our management structure and now need Degree Qualified Engineers in a number of disciplines to take up lecturing posts within the RSME Professional Engineering Wing.

Teaching experience would be an advantage but we recognise that it is unlikely that this has been within your experience to date unless you are already in the education sector, so we will provide you with the skills and qualifications required.

If the prospect of using your professional engineering skills and experience to develop the engineering capability of tomorrow's military engineer, then we would like to hear from you.

- Construction
- Electrical
- Civil Engineering
- Project Management
- Mechanical

These are key appointments and candidates will need to demonstrate that they can communicate effectively and have a strong understanding of their engineering discipline.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date Friday 17th October 2008



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer



MKC Training Services Limited

at The Royal School of Military Engineering

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



Babcock Defence Services Opportunities Medway



The Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) provides training in leadership and management, infrastructure engineering and battlefield engineering and is regarded as the finest military engineering school in Europe.

Following the award of the contract, Babcock Defence Services have the following recruitment opportunities based at the RSME at Medway:

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSE (PART TIME) REF: RSME 9C
DRIVERS (PSV, LGV, HGV & ADR QUALIFIED) REF: RSME 19-22C
PLANT OPERATORS (VEHICLE SERVICING) REF: RSME 17C
STOREPERSON (AMMUNITION) REF: RSME 15C
ARMOURER & ARMS STORE OPERATOR REF: RSME 25C
SERVICE SUPPORT DESK OPERATORS REF: RSME 23C

If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number.

Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.

Applications to be received by: Monday 20 October 2008.

XMAS TEMPS

required for Chilled Warehouse based in Paddock Wood

£6.20 per hour, paid weekly

Must be numerate, literate and be able to work to deadlines.

Work available till end of December.

Different shifts available including evening, please state on application form what you are able to work.

Opportunities for permanent positions.

Please call Gemma or Abby on 01892 839950



Let's have something tasty!

Production Manager

A genuine hands-on leadership role, directly responsible for the day-to-day supervision of a production team, with a brief to ensure performance levels meet and exceed output targets across the key areas of safety, quality and productivity. With a proven track record in a similar production or first-line management position, the successful candidate must have a solid production background gained in a food manufacturing environment, coupled with a results-driven approach and strong leadership skills.

This position requires a Sunday-Thursdays work pattern.

Telesales/Order Processor

Ideal candidate will be processing orders, answering sales calls, processing faxed and emailed orders, ringing existing account holders to request orders and must be computer literate, hard working and enthusiastic.

This is a part time position and the successful candidate will be required to work from 10am to 2.30pm Monday to Friday.

Driver

Early morning delivery driver (up to 3 tonnes van) required to deliver in the South East and London area.

Hours up 40 per week starting early morning with good rates of pay.

Successful applicants must have a clean driving licence and be presentable and polite.

Please apply in writing, enclosing your CV, to: The Personnel Manager, Anchor Catering Ltd., Unit 2 Wotton Trading Estate, Wotton Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 6LL or by e-mail to mail@anchorcatering.co.uk
Telephone: 01233 665533

A new dance company in Kent is looking to recruit

DANCE TEACHERS

to teach for an hour a day, from one to five days per week. We run fun freestyle dance classes and are looking for people who are passionate about dance and have had some experience working with young people.

If you are interested please call 07896198442

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS with NVQ3 SUPPORT WORKER NIGHT WORKER

Full training given.

To apply please call for an application form

01233 733127

Larchwood Grove Residential Home for Adults with learning difficulties - Gravesend



A residential care home for older people in Sevenoaks seeks a

SENIOR RSW

(Day Care Team Leader)

Could you take responsibility for the home during your shift? Can you manage staff? Are you able to provide care to residents and liaise with their families and visiting medical staff?

The basic pay is £10.04 per hour and £12.55 per hour for weekends and bank holidays.

37 hour week on rota NVQ3/First Aid/Safe Handling of Medicines certificates desirable but various training is available.

6 wks leave, pension scheme, company sick pay after 6 mths, free parking on site. Some work clothing provided, meals on duty.

Please ring Jay Drake on 01732 458762 or Rockdale House on 01732 454763 for a chat/application form.

This post will be subject to an Enhanced CRB disclosure

CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE ACROSS EAST KENT

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Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS – and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts.

Why not join us?

STAFF BENEFITS PACKAGE

- Final salary pension scheme
- Occupational sickness benefit
- Lease car scheme for eligible staff
- Occupational health service
- Childcare
- Enhanced maternity pay
- Enhanced paternity pay
- Enhanced adoption pay
- Flexible Working Policies
- Extensive Training Programs
- Long service awards
- In-house discounts & external benefits

SELECTION OF CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADMIN AND CLERICAL

Senior Information Analyst

Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Location: Templar House, Ashford

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-ASH160

Closing date: 8/10/08

Admin and Clerical Clerk in District Nursing

Salary: Band 2 £12,922 to £15,950 pa

Location: Ashford

Hours: 10

Ref: 767-EIC496

Closing date: 9/10/08

Admin Assistant in Commissioning and Performance

Salary: Band 2 £12,922 to £15,950 pa

Location: Margate

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-ASH157

Closing date: 10/10/08

Receptionist Clerical Officer

Salary: Band 2 £12,922 - £15,950 pa

Location: Queen Victoria Maritime Hospital

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-EIC515

Closing date: 15/10/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Contraceptive & Reproductive Health Nurse

Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Location: Canterbury Health Centre

Hours: 7

Ref: 767-ASH158

Closing date: 8/10/08

Trainee Nurse Practitioner

Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Location: Royal Victoria Hospital

Hours: 20

Ref: 767-EIC440

Closing date: 10/10/08

Community Nurse - District Nursing

Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Location: Deal

Hours: 30

Ref: 767-EIC497

Closing date: 16/10/08

Community Nurse - District Nursing

Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Location: Margate

Hours: 30

Ref: 767-EIC499

Closing date: 16/10/08

Community Nurse - District Nursing

Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Location: Ramsgate

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-EIC498

Closing date: 16/10/08

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Nurse

Salary: Band 7 £29,091 to £38,352 pa

Location: Protea House, Dover

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-ASH125

Closing date: 17/10/08

Community Health Nurse, Universal Services

Salary: Band 5 £20,225 - £26,123 pa

Location: Ashford

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-EIC517

Closing date: 15/10/08

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Pharmacy Technician Medicines Support Service

Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Location: Protea House, Dover

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-EIC502

Closing date: 17/10/08

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Dental Officer

Salary: £36,792 to £57,232 pa pr

Location: Deal/New Romney/Ramsgate

Hours: Full and Part Time hours available

Ref: 767-EIC5458

Closing date: 17/10/08

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL SERVICES

Health Promotion Practitioner

Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Location: Whitfield Court

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-ASH159

Closing date: 10/10/08

Health Care Assistant

Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa

Location: QVMH, Herne Bay

Hours: 9.5

Ref: 767-ASH088

Closing date: 10/10/08

Public Health Business Manager

Salary: Band 7 £29,091 - £38,352 pa

Location: County Hall, Maidstone

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-EIC513

Closing date: 15/10/08

Children's Primary Mental Health Worker

Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Location: Drapers Mills School, Ramsgate

Hours: 22.5

Ref: 767-EIC501

Closing date: 20/10/08

Community Cardiac Support Worker

Salary: Band 3 £14,834 - £17,732 pa

Location: Dundee House, Ramsgate

Hours: 37.5

Ref: 767-EIC507

Closing date: 15/10/08

For further information and to apply, please visit www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk

We are an equal opportunities employer Committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

Keith Graham Academy Hairdressing Training Provider Key Skills Lecturer

To teach Key Skills Level 1 & 2 in Literacy and Numeracy to Post 16 Apprentices in our three training academies in Maidstone, Folkestone and Ramsgate. DTLLS and A Units desirable or alternative teaching qualification. 32 hours per week and must have own transport.

CVs to Amanda Green
Unit 12 Heron Business Centre,
Henwood Industrial Est, Ashford, Kent TN24 8DH
01233 664171

Ashbridge Domestic Appliances

We require a full time Call Allocator
for our service centre.

Hours: 8.30am-5.30pm Monday-Friday,
Sat 8.30-12pm on a rota.

Good salary and benefits, including health care.

CV's to: Mr Pickmore, Ashbridge Domestic Appliances,
Unit 2, Bridge Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1BB

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Committed To Conservation

Marketing Manager

Temporary post to cover maternity leave

The renowned wild animal parks, Howletts and Port Lympne are one of the biggest attractions in Kent.

We are looking for a marketing professional with solid and extensive marketing experience and a proven track record of producing results to provide maternity cover for our Marketing Manager.

You will be positive, bright and articulate with excellent communication skills and man management skills with the drive and ambition to deliver results.

Your main duty is to increase visitor numbers and to protect the integrity of the brand. You will be responsible for executing the marketing plan for both parks, events, weddings and corporate products, dealing with outside consultants, managing and developing the marketing team and the company website.

Good budget control skills are essential as you will be responsible for a marketing budget of £400k.

The ideal candidate will have a marketing background managing above and below the line campaigns and have experience in e-marketing.

We are looking for applications from people who have the relevant skills and experience to make a positive impact to our organisation.

Applications should include your CV and cover letter outlining your suitability and salary expectations. Please send applications to:

Helen Dallimore-Jones, Human Resources Manager, Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, Nr Hythe, Kent CT21 4PD. Or e-mail: helen.dj@howletts.net

For more information and to gain an understanding of our company please visit our web site: www.totallywild.net before applying.



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INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES

Research & Development Trainee

ITL is a world leader in the Design and Manufacture of Medical and Scientific Instruments.

There is an exciting opportunity for a young technically minded person to join an experienced multidisciplinary team of engineers, creating a blend of traditional and state of the art products.

The ideal person should be a "team player" being dynamic innovative and self motivated. You will be required to show good problem solving skills as well as striving for sound design and have a keen interest in Engineering.

Personal development and training will be provided within the workplace, this activity will be bolstered by structured academic enhancement. The details of this advancement will be designed to optimise the candidate's potential.

Your long-term aim should be to become a competent multidisciplinary engineer.

Please forward your CV to Vicki Newman, Integrated Technologies Ltd, Ellingham Way, Ashford, Kent TN23 6NF, or email: vn@itl.co.uk



Programme Managers

Starting salary £20,061 with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 per annum

This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in the development of Playing for Success Kent (PFS Kent). We are in a position to extend the project and will, therefore, be looking to make appointments at the following locations.

Ebbfleet, Maidstone, Margate and Canterbury

Supporting the Centre Manager to lead an innovative Study Support Centre (part of the DCSF PFS initiative) based at any of the locations above, you will work in partnership with the Clubs and play an influential role in the LA's development of out of school hours learning.

The Centres are based in a purpose built, fully equipped classroom and will offer an exciting and challenging environment where young people in Key Stages 2/3 participate in out of school hours learning.

You will be responsible for planning, managing and delivering day time, evening and weekend programmes from the Centre by working closely with the Centre Manager, local schools, the Club, partners and the wider community.

The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day is essential.

Applications are welcomed from candidates with experience of working with a range of ages and experiences. You should also have experience of a range of educational contexts and ideally, of working with young people outside the classroom. An interest in sport would be useful.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

If you would like the opportunity to discuss this post please contact: Christian Kelly (Playing for Success Kent Manager) on 07825 506584/christian.kelly@kent.gov.uk

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference number CFE/o8/0509.

Closing date: Midday, 21 October 2008.

Interview dates: week beginning 3 November 2008.



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the University of Greenwich at Medway

PART TIME PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ADMINISTRATOR

Ref: 01086/K3

In this post you will liaise closely with the other part time Personal Assistant/Administrator to provide administrative support to the Head of School and other staff within the School of Engineering. You will perform the whole range of secretarial and clerical duties including taking minutes for meetings. We are looking for someone with Office Studies/Administration at NVQ 3 or equivalent relevant experience. You must have initiative but be able to work within a strong team ethos. You will have some tight deadlines and need to be well organised. You will be working with a wide range of people so excellent interpersonal skills are vital.

Hours of work 17.5 per week

Salary pro rata to £19,841 - £22,332 per annum

PART TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ref: 01087/K3

The School of Science employs around 90 staff and deals with about 2800 students. It runs undergraduate and post graduate degrees in a wide range of science subjects including biomedical, environmental, pharmaceutical and sports sciences.

You will work as part of a team liaising with School and University staff to improve student attendance. This involves the monitoring of attendance, the adherence to learning contracts and general compliance with University systems and regulations designed to support students.

Hours of work 21 per week.

Salary pro rata to £17,169 - £19,263 per annum

TECHNICIAN (FIXED TERM FOR 2 YEARS)

Ref: 01088/K3

You will work in a large University teaching laboratory in the general areas of chemistry and pharmaceutical science. The majority of the work will involve preparation for laboratory classes and assistance with projects for both undergraduate and MSc students.

You should be educated to at least A-level (or equivalent) and should possess good knowledge of working in a chemistry laboratory and be able to use appropriate equipment. Good IT skills are also required especially in the use of email, word processing and spreadsheets. You will be a team player and operate well under pressure.

This post is fixed term for 2 years.

Salary £17,169 - £19,263 per annum

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website www.gre.ac.uk, email: jobs@gre.ac.uk or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5:00 pm on 21 October 2008.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

LJM CARPENTRY AND JOINERY LIMITED

Company Number: 05812503

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 2.30 pm on 9 October 2008 at 141 Parnock Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1EY, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 141 Parnock Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1EY, on 7 and 8 October 2008 the two business days before the date of the meeting.

Dated: 29 September 2008
By Order of the Board
L. Muggidge, Director

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Apprenticeships for accountancy staff

TRAINING company BPP Professional Education is offering apprenticeship courses in Association of Accounting Technician qualifications at 13 of its training centres across the UK.

This follows it getting funding from the Learning and Skills Council. It will offer two qualifications under the scheme, accountancy and payroll, but only the payroll courses will be offered in Kent, at its Maidstone centre.

To be eligible students must be aged between 16-24 years, although some centres offer funding for over 25s.

Students must be working in a full-time accountancy or payroll related role, be able to attend a BPP classroom course if taking the accountancy qualification and must not be a graduate.

Talk on UK economy

David Frost, director general of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), will be addressing the Annual General Meeting of the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce.

It takes place on October 10 at Ashford Business Point, the chamber's head office.

Mr Frost will speak on the subject of "The outlook for the UK economy and the actions the BCC is taking to promote the interests of the business community".

The BCC, Kent Invicta Chamber and other BCC accredited chambers are shortly to launch a Business-Network-Online Service.

This will be an exclusive online networking and trading portal from the chamber network – connecting businesses to the Ultimate Business Network on a local, regional and national level.

Climate change awards

KENT small businesses with big ideas to tackle climate change are being urged to compete for awards of up to £40,000 each through the Shell Springboard programme which is in its fourth year.

Up to six awards of between £20,000 and £40,000 are on offer in each of three UK regions, and one of them is southern England and East Anglia.

Last year awards of £40,000 were made to five businesses from across the UK. The deadline for entries is November 7.

Full details and an online application form can be found at www.shellspringboard.org.

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Don't miss this month's Business Update from Tony Patey. Search 'patey'



IDENTITY FRAUD: Survey highlighted number of people who have lost mobile phones and other hand-held devices containing important information such as bank account details

Keep vital details in palm of your hand

■ BY TONY PATEY

HIGH-tech users are being warned not to put personal data on phones and laptops after research found that an incredible 60,000 hand-held devices had been left in the back of black cabs in the last six months alone.

ID fraud expert Equifax, which has a number of Kent customers, said that the initial inconvenience of being without your phone is one thing, but there are much more serious implications.

"Unfortunately, our mobiles and BlackBerrys have become the equivalent of our address books," said Neil Munroe, external affairs director.

"And what that means if we lose them is

that we lose a lot of valuable information that could be used by fraudsters to steal our identity."

A survey conducted by the firm among customers in April revealed that 16 per cent put PIN numbers on their mobile devices while 24 per cent recorded birthday dates.

And an amazing half said they stored bank details on laptops, mobiles and BlackBerrys.

"The advent of chip and PIN and an increased focus on electronic security mean that more passwords and PINs need to be remembered than ever before," said Mr Munroe. "But that can be a challenge, especially if you have several bank accounts and credit cards."

"Consumers really must not store those

numbers and passwords on their mobiles or BlackBerrys. Fraudsters are very clever and can quickly go through an address book to spot the number that clearly isn't a telephone number."

"While most people now recognise the importance of securing their laptops, many don't do the same for their mobile phones or other hand-held equipment."

"All should be password-protected and users should avoid storing key personal information on them. The moral of the story is don't put it on there if you don't have to."

The firm advises applying for a copy of your credit file to look out for any unauthorised activity, shredding statements bills and direct mail which contains personal information, redirecting mail if you move, and always checking bank statements and credit card statements carefully against receipts.



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Jackson pulls out all the stops as Mos win again



SAVE: Netminder Glen Jackson was man of the match in Dynamos' hard-fought win

INVICTA Dynamos' new-look side continue to improve as they strengthened their position in the English National Ice Hockey League Cup with a confident victory against Milton Keynes.

Slovakian forward Martin Melichercik grabbed two goals to add to his growing reputation, while Laurence Billing, Karl Lennon and Elliott Andrews also got on the scoresheet.

Mos head coach Kevin Parrish was pleased with the victory, which was their fourth in six games this season.

He said: "It was a good performance. Milton Keynes have a big rink. We were a little bit slow out of the blocks which can happen with a long

ICE HOCKEY

Milton Keynes Thunder 2 Invicta Dynamos 5

bus trip, but I thought we dominated the game and it was some of the best hockey we have played this season.

"The scoreline probably suggests it was comfortable, but we had to work hard. We played a lot better in defence, if we concede two or three goals a game I'm fairly happy.

"We have let in a few more than that in recent games, but they looked solid and moved the puck forward well. It's getting better

which is the pleasing thing."

Mos needed netminder Glen Jackson to be on top form early in the game with a string of good saves. The stopper was later named as man of the match and the visitors only made certain of the result in the final period, scoring two unanswered goals.

It maintained their 100 per cent record in the cup and means they are well placed to qualify from the group stage.

They can increase their stranglehold on the South section when they host Peterborough Islanders, a team they have already beaten this season, on Sunday.

Face-off at the Gillingham Ice Bowl is at 5.15pm.

Goal difference all that separates pair

JULES Rimet and Real Huntsman continue to lead the way in the Premier Masters League as both swept to comfortable victories.

A 9-0 win against HEM Autos saw Jules Rimet hang on to top spot on goal difference, while Real Huntsman also kept their 100 per cent record intact thanks to a 10-0 victory against Spartacus.

Santos remain the team to beat in the Friday Masters League as they thumped the Dockers 12-2 to stay two points clear.

In the Sunday League, Luqa went three points clear with a 5-0 win against Sherwood whilst nearest challengers True Blues drew 3-3 with King George.

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EBBSFLEET'S Liam Daish gives his reaction to Monday night's game against Histon

Holcs yet to be beat

HOLCOMBE Hockey Club's men's first team kept up their unbeaten start to the season with a draw against City of Peterborough on Saturday.

Paul Rudd and David Mathews scored the goals for the home side in a 2-2 draw.

The result leaves Holcs second in the Conference East after two matches ahead of Saturday's trip to Old Loughtonians.

The ladies' firsts bounced back from defeat in their previous match to beat Dereham 2-1.

Cheryl Lee and Jennie Hoyte scored the goals which helped Holcombe up to fifth in the East Women's Premier.

On Saturday they are at home to unbeaten Thurrock.

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glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



CHASE IS ON: Chatham's Matt Solly (left) epitomises the effort shown by Steve Binks' side on Saturday as he closes down Jimmy Jackson during the FA Trophy clash

Smith saves his best till last as Chats earn replay

CHATHAM Town battled to a hard-fought draw in difficult conditions and could consider themselves unlucky not to have caused a cup upset on Saturday.

The Chats led their FA Trophy preliminary round tie against Folkestone Invicta at the break through an own goal, but the experienced Jimmy Jackson Smith to take the tie to a replay.

Town manager Steve Binks was delighted with his side's display under the circumstances.

He said: "It wasn't the prettiest of games to watch I suppose with the wind, but I thought we have played better than that this season not getting the rewards we deserve.

"I'm really pleased, it would have been nice to nick it at the end, but it was a good result."

On paper although both sides play at the

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Folkestone Invicta 1

Chatham Town 1



same level, the odds were firmly stacked in Folkestone's favour. The Seaside's have started the season well and lie second in the Ryman South, while Town have struggled at the wrong end of the Ryman North.

Playing with the wind in the first half, Folkestone had the majority of chances early on, although none tested Smith.

Chats worked extremely hard to close their opponents down and gave them no time on the ball and took the lead on 27 minutes.

A burst of pace from Mark Brooks threatened

to expose the Invicta defence and Liam Friend hung out a leg to bring the wide man down. The centre-back was booked, but his troubles deepened as he turned Darren Smith's free kick into his own net.

Invicta drew level seven minutes into the second half when Jackson scored from close range and in an entertaining finish, both sides went in search of a winner. Chats came closest just before the hour mark when Lee Maskell's shot was deflected on to a post, while Smith denied James Everitt in injury time.

Binks singled out two of his youngsters for special praise. He said: "James Smith pulled off a fantastic save from point-blank range at the death. He's still very young for a goalkeeper, but he's destined for a big future in the game.

"Justin Ascheri was excellent, he worked his socks off."

The draw set up a replay at Maidstone Road last night. Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for the match report.

This Saturday, the Chats will fancy their chances of taking maximum points when they visit bottom team Witham Town.

More away day blues but Jarrett shows his worth

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Exeter City 3

Gillingham 0

GILLINGHAM'S Jekyll and Hyde season continued on Saturday with another lamentable performance away from home.

While Mark Stimson's side have little trouble picking up points in front of their home fans at Priestfield, on their travels it is a different matter.

They fell behind as early as the seventh minute when Richard Logan headed past Simon Royce.

The game was effectively decided in the space of four minutes just before the break, during which time Adam Stansfield scored twice.

For the travelling Gills fans it dredged up the all too raw memories of the 7-0 defeat at Shrewsbury last month, when the game was over well before the final whistle.

The visitors improved after the break, particularly through Albert Jarrett making his first start for the club.

The winger, who is hoping to impress to extend his short-term contract, curled a free kick just wide and then struck the post.

After an encouraging start which saw the team draw with Bournemouth and beat Darlington on their travels, Gills have lost



Picture: KEITH SLATER

OFF TO A FLYER: One consolation for Gills fans was the impressive display of Albert Jarrett (right) in his first start

Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: Lewis (Weston 84mins), Pugh (Bentley 85mins)

their last three away games, conceding 12 goals in the process.

Wildly differing form between home and away is nothing new for the club. They won just twice in 23 league games outside of

Priestfield last season, contributing just ten of their 46 points. That inability to regularly pick up results on the road was the main factor in their relegation from League One.

While it would be premature to read too much into their form so far, a similar pattern throughout the campaign would almost certainly prove fatal to their promotion hopes.

Despite their inconsistent results, Gills are ninth in the table, one point away from the play-off places. The side will no doubt be thankful to return to Priestfield on Saturday, when they host Morecambe.

They were also at home last night in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy against Colchester United. Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for a report and reaction from the game.

FOOTBALL



Picture: IOR MIPRO

REGULAR: Barry Fuller benefits from pre-season

Pre-season pain pays off as Fuller takes his chance

NO-ONE personifies the contrast in fortunes at Gillingham between this season and last than Barry Fuller.

The Ashford-born full-back initially struggled to make an impact after signing from Stevenage Borough in January.

But a change in formation this season gave Fuller a chance to play regularly and the 24-year-old has been one of the team's most consistent performers, playing every minute so far.

It has been a rapid turnaround for the former Charlton Athletic apprentice who ended last season on the surgeon's table after badly breaking two fingers playing against Millwall.

The injury kept him out of the club's crucial last few games, which ultimately cost them their place in League One.

For Fuller, it was a terrible way to end the season.

"I wasn't even able to travel for some of the games so it was even worse," he said. "I had to sit at home and listen to it on the radio."

"I just wanted to be with the boys to support them because they were difficult times and we needed to stick together."

"I found it really hard not to be in and around them on a Saturday."

Despite needing seven screws put into his fingers to correct the injury, Fuller was one of the first players back into pre-season training and it has paid off as he looks increasingly at ease in the first team.

He said: "This season I have been playing so my confidence has risen. When I came in last year I played one or two and then I was out for a couple."

"The gaffer went to 3-5-2 and thought Nicky Southall was more attacking than me so I took it on the chin, worked hard in pre-season and have kept going really. This is the fittest I have ever been in my career."

"I have proved myself by playing in every game and I just hope I can keep it going until the end of the season."

LEAGUE TABLES

LEAGUE TWO

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Wycombe Wanderers	9	6	3	0	+8	21
2 Bury	9	5	4	0	+7	19
3 Shrewsbury Town	9	5	3	1	+14	18
4 Brentford	9	5	3	1	+7	18
5 D'ham & R'bridge	9	5	2	2	+12	17
6 Bradford City	9	5	1	3	+5	16
7 Exeter City	9	4	2	3	+3	14
8 Aldershot Town	9	4	2	3	0	14
9 Gillingham	9	4	1	4	-6	13
10 Darlington	9	3	3	3	+6	12

20 Barnet	9	2	1	6	-10	7
21 Grimsby Town	9	0	3	6	-14	3
22 Rotherham U (-17)	9	5	3	1	+8	1
23 Bournemouth (-17)	9	2	3	4	-2	-8
24 Luton Town (-30)	9	3	3	3	0	-18

RYMAN DIVISION ONE NORTH

1 Brentwood Town	10	8	2	0	+16	26
2 Waltham Abbey	10	7	2	1	+14	23
3 East Thurrock Utd	9	7	1	1	+12	22
4 Aveley	10	5	5	0	+11	20
5 Redbridge	10	5	4	1	+12	19
6 Ware	9	6	1	2	+9	19
7 Concord Rangers	10	6	1	3	+8	19
8 Wingate & Finchley	9	5	2	2	+9	17
9 Northwood	9	5	2	2	+4	17
10 Leyton	10	5	1	4	+6	16

15 Great Wakering R	10	2	3	5	-11	9
16 Thamesmead Town	8	2	2	4	-2	8
17 Pottery Bar Town	10	1	4	5	-3	7
18 Chatham Town	10	2	1	7	-11	7
19 Ilford	10	2	1	7	-13	7
20 Waltham Forest	11	1	2	8	-16	5
21 Hillingdon Borough	10	1	1	8	-18	4
22 Witham Town	10	1	1	35	-22	4

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

1 Holmesdale	9	7	1	1	+11	22
2 Hythe Town	7	6	1	0	+14	19
3 Tunbridge Wells	6	5	0	1	+5	15
4 Greenwich Borough	9	4	1	4	-2	13
5 Faversham Town	7	4	0	3	+8	12
6 Norton Sports	9	4	0	5	-3	12
7 Sevenoaks Town	8	3	2	3	-1	11
8 Beckenham Town	11	3	2	6	-2	11
9 Herne Bay	7	3	1	3	+2	10
10 Erith Town	5	3	0	2	+6	9
11 VCD Athletic	6	3	0	3	+2	9
12 Croydon	6	3	0	3	+1	9
13 Erith & Belvedere	4	3	0	1	+1	9
14 Slade Green	8	2	2	4	-5	8
15 Deal Town	8	2	2	4	-5	8
16 Sporting Bengal	6	0	0	6	-18	0
17 Lordswood	6	0	0	6	-18	0

FIXTURES (Saturday, October 11): League Two - Gillingham v Morecambe; Ryman Division One North - Witham Town v Chatham Town; Kent Senior Trophy first round - Lordswood v Milton & Fulston



Picture: ALAN BOLING

NICE TRY: Billy Humphrey (above) grabbed one of Medway's six tries in a comfortable win against Askeans on Saturday

Coach philosophical despite win

MEDWAY continue to impress in Kent 1 and ran in six tries against Askeans for their third successive victory.

There were fears that after back-to-back promotions the team would struggle this season, but so far they appear to be unfounded.

Askeans went into the game in bottom position, but did not make it easy for the visitors in a tight first half, with Medway sneaking into a 10-6 lead at the break.

The second half was much more one-sided as Medway completed what turned out to be a comfortable victory.

Glen Wadsworth scored two tries, while Rob Ellis, Darren Kistner, Billy Humphrey and debutant Roger Rhynearl all got one apiece.

The victory made it three wins out of four this season and lifted Medway into a four-way share of the lead.

RUGBY

Askeans 13 Medway 41

Head coach Taff Gwilliam is pleased with the good start, but knows there is a long way to go.

He said: "We lost our first game of the season to Old Olavians, but I have been coaching in the Kent League for several years and they were the finest team I have seen at this level. "Since then I have been very pleased with the way things are progressing."

"It will take six or seven games for the league table to take shape, then we will have a better idea of where we stand."

On Saturday, Medway have a good chance of extending their winning run when they host Sheppey, who have lost all four league matches this season.

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Gills manager Mark Stimson on the impact of new signing Andy Barcham

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